



# KENT ON SUNDAY

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# TAMIFLU 'VITAL FOR CHILDREN'

By **JENNA PUDELEK**

**YOUNGSTERS** with severe swine flu who do not take Tamiflu could face serious complications and even death, a leading family doctor has warned parents.

The antiviral medicine has been mired in controversy after two studies found more than half of children who took the drug suffered side effects such as nausea and nightmares.

Another study published in the British Medical Journal (BMJ) suggested antiviral medication does not prevent complications, such as pneumonia and severe asthma, in children with flu.

But Dr Caroline Jessel, deputy medical director at NHS West Kent, urged parents to continue giving Tamiflu and other antivirals to their children if they are prescribed.

"If the child was quite unwell and I was a parent, then the risk of taking them is less than the risk of not taking Tamiflu and getting really ill with swine flu," she said.

"You have to weigh up the risks and benefits. Parents are not obliged, but if it is advised I would certainly think about it because they might be life saving in some situations."

In response to the BMJ study, the Department of Health (DoH) said the study was based on seasonal flu and so may not apply to swine flu.

The two studies by the Health Protection

## Antiviral drugs may stop your children dying, warns doctor

Agency were carried out in the containment stage of the pandemic when everyone sharing a classroom with a child who had the H1N1 virus was given Tamiflu, even if they showed no symptoms, in a bid to stop its spread.

In a study of 103 pupils at three London schools, 53 per cent suffered side effects including nausea, stomach pain and problems sleeping.

Asked if there was a danger in parents not giving their children antivirals due to fears over side effects, Dr Jessel said: "I think it would not be sensible to withhold it, particu-

larly where they are severely affected. Some of the complications may well be prevented and the complications may be more severe and longer in duration [if Tamiflu is not taken].

"For friends and family it is less infectious so there are definitely benefits. As with all medication, it is not of total benefit without risks.

"It is the same situation with antibiotics."

She said the number of patients being prescribed Tamiflu had fallen significantly in recent weeks due to the summer holidays and people spending more time outdoors. But the virus has not disappeared, she warned.

NHS Eastern and Coastal Kent also said the number of people with swine flu-like symptoms in its area had also decreased over the past week.

"The research has thrown a different perspective on Tamiflu and helped us to understand its impact better," Dr Jessel added.

"It is not really relevant in a flu pandemic because it is based on seasonal flu. It is interesting, but not necessarily going to change the advice. More research is needed, but our advice is still relatively straight forward - if

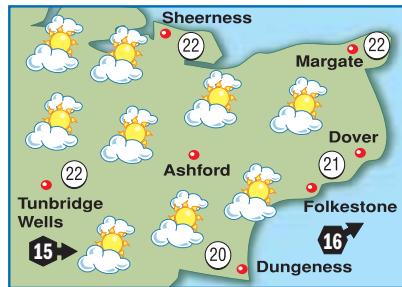
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## Kent today



**TODAY:** Dry with sunny spells and variable amounts of cloud. Breezy, with moderate south-westerly winds. Max temp 21-24C (70-75F).

**TONIGHT:** Generally dry with clear spells. The small chance of a shower later. Moderate westerly winds. Min temp 12-15C (54-59F).

## Around Britain

	°C	°F		°C	°F
Aberdeen	cloudy	20 68	London	fair	23 73
Belfast	cloudy	17 63	Liverpool	cloudy	19 66
Birmingham	fair	20 68	Manchester	fair	20 68
B'mouth	cloudy	21 70	Newcastle	fair	19 66
Bristol	cloudy	19 66	Norwich	fair	22 72
Cardiff	cloudy	19 66	Oxford	fair	21 70
Cork	drizzle	18 64	Southsea	cloudy	22 72
Edinburgh	cloudy	18 64	S'hampton	cloudy	20 68
Glasgow	rain	17 63	Southport	fair	19 66
Isle of Man	cloudy	18 64	Swansea	cloudy	18 64
Leeds	fair	18 64	Torquay	cloudy	19 66

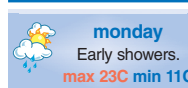





## Sun & moon

Sunrise	5.42am	Sunset	8.16pm	Lighting up times:
Moonrise	12.05am	Moonset	5.54pm	8.16pm to 5.43am

## High Tides

	today	tomorrow
	ht (m)	ht (m)
Dover	07.21 5.4 20.01 5.6	08.57 5.6 21.26 5.9
Margate	08.25 3.9 20.58 4.0	09.48 4.0 22.24 4.2
St Mary's	00.44 4.3 13.29 4.5	02.15 4.5 14.51 4.8

## Week ahead

 <b>monday</b> Early showers. max 23C min 11C	 <b>thursday</b> Showers. max 25C min 14C
 <b>tuesday</b> Sunny. Dry. max 24C min 13C	 <b>friday</b> Sunny spells. max 23C min 14C
 <b>wednesday</b> Sunny. Hot. max 27C min 15C	 <b>saturday</b> Showers. max 21C min 14C

- EDITOR: Ian Patel
- ADDRESS: Apple Barn, Smeeth, Kent TN25 6SR.
- WEBSITE: www.kentnews.co.uk
- MOBILE WAP SERVICE: www.kentnews.co.uk/mobile
- TELEPHONE: 01303 817000
- FAX (ADVERTISING): 01303 817001
- FAX (EDITORIAL): 01303 817002

- EMAIL: EDITORIAL: editorial@kosmedia.co.uk  
ADVERTISING: sales@kosmedia.co.uk

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# 'We need urgent drug trial for children'

## CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

symptoms are quite severe, obviously they need help and it is effective in reducing the duration and symptoms of the swine flu.

"For very mild cases it has always been the case not to give antivirals. Some people can be treated perfectly well with over-the-counter medication."

Matthew Thompson, author of the BMJ study, told New Scientist: "It may be worth the DoH taking the new research on board and perhaps having a more targeted approach to the use of antivirals. Or urgently con-

ducting randomised controlled trials of children and adults to identify whether there are sub-groups of children who will benefit from antivirals and whether they do have an impact on severe

complications such as pneumonia or hospitalisation."

In Canada and the US antivirals are only recommended for patients at particularly high risk or with severe illness, he said.

Reports say in Japan GPs have been advised not to give the drugs to those aged between 10-19 because of high rates of 'neuropsychiatric side effects' such as nightmares and feeling confused.

HEALTHY children and babies under six-months-old will not be among those given the vaccine against swine flu, the Government has announced.

A mass immunisation campaign, which will see more than 11 million people in four priority groups mainly focused on those whose underlying health conditions put them at risk from the pandemic, will begin in October.

First children and people under 65 with conditions such as heart disease, diabetes and asthma, then all pregnant women, people who live with patients with

compromised immune systems such as those with leukaemia, and then people over 65 with underlying health conditions.

Around two million frontline health and social care workers will also be given the vaccine. The DoH said preparations were being made to extend the programme.

Children have not been included in the first wave of vaccinations because although they are disproportionately affected by the virus, the vast majority make a full recovery, the DoH said.

# County Hall leader's gunning for quangos

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

KENT County Council leader Paul Carter has thrown his weight behind proposals to drastically reduce the number of quangos in the UK.

Tory leader David Cameron said last month there were too many Government-funded organisations like Ofcom and the Learning and Skills Council, run by people who are un-elected and therefore unaccountable for the big decisions they are entrusted to make.

He pledged to cut back on the number of quangos (quasi-autonomous non-governmental organisations) to save money if his party wins the next general election.

While Mr Cameron would not be drawn on just how much cash could be saved, other Tories like Cllr Carter have been more forthcoming with the figures.

The KCC chief believes £5 billion could be saved in the South East alone.

He told Kent on Sunday: "I think a Conservative government could make huge savings by getting rid of a significant number of regional quangos and giving their responsibilities back to local government."

"I think part of the reason there are so many of them is due to a lack of trust from central government towards local govern-

## Carter: 'We could save £5 billion'

ment, but I think local government has transformed itself over the last 20 years and is now more effective throughout the country than any agency.

"KCC is one of the most effective local authorities and is at the forefront of better trust and better understanding."

Among the quangos Cllr Carter believes need to be scrapped or reformed are the Learning and Skills Council, the Homes and Communities Agency and the various Regional Development Agencies.

He has already canvassed support from county leaders in England's eight other regions and intends to publish detailed plans for the party conferences in October.

## Efficiency

Cllr Carter said: "We need to work out how exactly the quangos could be broken up to further empower local government."

"I think KCC in particular can run things more efficiently and spend Government money much more wisely, working very closely with the 12 district councils."

"We know the problems in the local economy much better than an unelected representative sitting in an office in Guildford."

Cllr Carter's comments are a thinly-veiled swipe at the South East England Development Agency (Seeda), which is based in Guildford, Surrey, yet is responsible for the economic and social development of an area

that is bigger than Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland combined.

Last month South East minister Jonathan Shaw spoke out in defence of the group at a meeting of the Commons' South East Committee.

He pointed to the Channel Tunnel Rail Link as an example of the type of investment Seeda has helped make possible.

When informed of Cllr Carter's comments, a Seeda spokesman said it delivered an average of £5.60 for every pound spent between 2002 and 2007.

He added: "With Seeda support, Kent has received significant investment in regeneration and job creation."

"Seeda has helped Kent make the case for becoming a regional priority, attracting more investment than the area would have received if investment decisions were based on population or an equal allocation across local authority areas."

"Seeda investment into the region has included a contribution of £60m to leverage £700m of private sector funding to develop Chatham Maritime."

"This has helped create 3,500 new jobs and bring three universities together on a new campus for 6,000 students."

"Other investments include an £8m contribution to support urban regeneration in Margate, and more than £7.5m to support redevelopment of Dover's St James area."



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# You'll like this, not a little but a lot, as Paul Daniels visits Magic at village hall

By **CHRIS MURPHY**  
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

PAUL Daniels, one of Britain's most famous magicians, is coming to Kent to perform in a village hall in front of a lucky audience of just 300 people.

Several years ago, he decided he wanted to give something back to the people who helped make him a global star.

He told Kent on Sunday: "I just love doing these shows. It allows me to get really close to my audiences, and they seem to enjoy it too."

Daniels will be appearing at Boughton Village Hall, about 10 minutes outside Faversham. Its website describes the venue as "a large hall set overlooking playing fields and orchards and adjacent to the village school", and facilities include a modest bar, kitchen, cloakroom and toilets and parking for 60 cars.

From his home Paul, 71, said: "This is exactly the sort of venue I am enjoying so much these days."

When world-famous celebrities are not playing there, the hall is used for meetings, parties, weddings, drama, off-road model car racing, concerts, conferences, bowls, billiards and a range of village organisations – all at very reasonable rates.

Daniels said: "I got involved in this kind of thing four or five years ago when my own village asked me to do a show there."

"These are the easiest things on the planet to do, because everyone knows everyone, they are friendly and for some reason they don't get celebrities in the villages any more."

"They have to go and see concerts where



**SMALL:** Paul Daniels will do magic tricks in the 300-capacity Boughton Village Hall

they never get close. Talking to that first audience after the show, they were saying how great it was.

"They told me they don't go to the theatres in the towns any more, because at night time they are frightened because of all the bingeing. So I realised if I put on these small shows, they don't have to pay congestion

charges, parking... making this a really good night out for them.

"I made a few inquiries and now I am doing 10 or 12 of these small shows a year and am loving it.

"I earn enough from some of the other jobs I do and I just love meeting people.

"I get to know some of the people in the audience, too. I open up by asking them if they want to ask me anything, and I get questions on all sorts of subjects.

"They ask about me, television, working in theatres, the business, and Debbie's phone number, which I tell them they can't have. But then they get on to things like politics, religion and more."

The honorary vice-president of the Medway Magicians, added: "I will be doing this for the foreseeable future, I am enjoying it too much. I drew a circle around my house marking out two hours' drive.

"Another good thing about going to these small places is that I am off the motorway for a lot of the time, which means I see fabulous countryside and some lovely places.

"These are the sorts of things you don't see when you are in my business."

He said he once finished a major show in Las Vegas, got on a jet back to the UK, and just a few hours later was performing in a village hall in Teeside.

"It was amazing, and this is the reason I am doing it – because I am having such a great time. It is a great way for me to run my life."

The show is on October 9 at 7.30pm. Tickets are £12.50 for adults and £10 concessions. To book, phone Linda on 01227 751225, or go to Bull Lane Garage, Bull Lane, or either the Post Office or Village Store both in The Street. You can also visit [www.starsaroundtown.co.uk](http://www.starsaroundtown.co.uk).

## Turbines stopped

SEVEN turbines at the £60 million wind farm on the Romney Marsh have stopped working only a month after it was opened.

RWE Npower Renewables, which runs the site at Little Cheyne Court, said technical problems with the transformers, which are associated with the high voltage circuit, meant they had to be sent back to Belgium.

The remaining 19 turbines are still operating at the farm, which Energy Secretary Ed Miliband opened in July.

A RWE spokeswoman said all the turbines should be fully operational by mid-October.

## Sea jumps halted

POLICE have enforced a dispersal order to stop young people jumping into the sea from the harbour walls of a seaside town.

The order, which came into force on Friday, comes after complaints from trawlermen and the harbour authority in Folkestone.

Acting Sergeant John Weller, from the Shepway Neighbourhood Policing Unit said jumping from the harbour wall was not a criminal offence but a civil one, which the order that runs until October 2 would tackle.

To see this clip search 'wildlife'  
@ [yourkenttv.co.uk](http://yourkenttv.co.uk)



**Julie Maddocks takes a look at some family days out in Kent that won't break the bank**

# Race case teacher 'used daughter's ID in police check'

A TEACHER seeking £1.2 million compensation for racial discrimination has been accused of using her daughter's fingerprints for a criminal record check.

Samantha Burmis, 41, a former maths teacher at Aylesford School, admitted at a tribunal in Ashford this week that she failed to declare her criminal history.

According to a national newspaper, Mrs Burmis admitted she ticked the "no" box on her Criminal Records Bureau check form for the question that asks if the applicant has any criminal convictions.

But the CRB revealed she has convictions for dishonesty relating to mortgage fraud – which she claimed had nothing to do with her.

Mrs Burmis, from Gravesend, is now being investigated by police for using her daughter's fingerprints on her CRB check after it was revealed the 19-year-old's prints were already on police file.

The Daily Telegraph reported that Mrs Burmis' daughter Nina currently holds a police record for using a forged cheque.

When Mrs Burmis finally admitted her discrepancy to the hearing, she said: "Okay, I gave incorrect information.

"It's just ticking a box. I didn't actually write anything."

The unemployed maths teacher took the Aylesford School, near Maidstone, to an employment tribunal for unfair dismissal after she was sacked for gross misconduct amid claims she smoked cannabis on a school trip.

Mrs Burmis won her case of racial discrimination against her former employer, Kent County Council, in 2007, after it was reported a senior teacher referred to her as "dark meat".

She is now seeking a £1.2 million payout on the grounds the accusations destroyed her career and have left her unable to find another post.

But it was revealed at the tribunal on Wednesday that Mrs Burmis is currently on police bail for a number of offences, such as fraud, false representation and perjury.

Peter Kirby, representing KCC, told the tribunal: "Mrs Burmis repeatedly failed to declare her criminal convictions on school application forms, or engage properly with the CRB process.

"She is now being investigated by the police for getting her daughter to give her fingerprints instead."

The four-day hearing was due to finish on Friday, but the tribunal had yet to issue its ruling as Kent on Sunday went to press.

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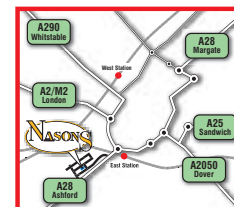
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By **STEVE KNIGHT**

steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

RONNIE Biggs' release from custody has given him a new zest for life, according to the biographer of the seriously ill Great Train Robber.

The 79-year-old was given only days to live when he was struck down with severe pneumonia late last month, but doctors say there is now a slim chance he could survive to see Christmas.

Medway resident Mike Gray – author of *Ronnie Biggs: The Inside Story* – is one of only a handful of people who has been invited to visit the infamous criminal in hospital.

He told Kent on Sunday: "I do not blame Ronnie for feeling anger and rejection against the Government and certain daily newspapers.

"He echoed to me what he told his son Michael – that he will find the inner strength to celebrate Michael's 35th birthday this weekend and possibly make it until Christmas.

"The hospital visit ended as it had started – very emotional with tears streaming down Ronnie's cheeks.

"The man still has fight left in him and I for one am so pleased he hasn't given up. He's staying strong and is clutching onto his dignity.

"The Brazilian hug and double-cheeked kiss was a strong message that he had never given up the fight, and neither had we."

### Compassionate

Biggs is the best-known member of a 15-strong gang that attacked the Glasgow to London mail train in August, 1963, making off with £2.6 million in what at the time was the largest robbery in British history.

He was sentenced to 30 years in prison, but escaped after 15 months and went on the run in Spain, Australia and Brazil.

Biggs gave himself up in 2001, and has served the last eight years behind bars, despite repeated pleas to release him on compassionate grounds due to his rapidly deteriorating health.

Justice Secretary Jack Straw finally gave in last week, meaning Mr Gray's visit to Norfolk hospital was the first time he had been allowed to see Biggs without an armed guard.

He said: "Ronnie's pneumonia is still life-threatening. He cannot move due to his

# Biggs shows he hasn't given up the fight, says his biographer



FREE: Biggs with close friend Mike Gray, author of *Ronnie Biggs: The Inside Story*



fractured hip, he has a bag fitted for toilet purposes and he cannot wash or shave.

"He cannot speak, gets tired very easily and sleeps for 20 hours a day. The list is endless.

"But Ronnie's side ward in the hospital is covered wall-to-wall in cards, letters, flowers and gifts – a true testament to his popularity.

"He's an old man who has never hurt anyone in his life. Ronnie was being slowly crucified on the Home Office cross but, thank God, he has now been removed from it. Common sense has prevailed."

## Out-spoken Tory hits out at NHS on US television – again

KENT MEP Daniel Hannan has been criticised by his Conservative colleagues for again attacking the NHS on American television, *writes Steve Knight*.

Giving his views on President Barack Obama's planned health reforms, Mr Hannan told the right-wing Fox News programme he wouldn't wish the service on anyone.

It was the second time the outspoken Tory had appeared on the show, having earlier this year described the NHS as a "mistake" that has "made people iller" over the course of its 60-year history.

Shadow health secretary Andrew Lansley said neither he nor Conservative leader David Cameron agreed with Mr Hannan's views.

He said: "What he said was both a negative view of the NHS, but more to the point was a distorted view of the NHS.

"I think it's very important for people in America to understand the NHS has very powerful examples that they can look to.

"In this country we have a degree of equity

of access to healthcare which many in America envy.

"What we need in this country, which I think Americans are very keen to retain in their healthcare system, is the ability of patients to exercise more control over their own healthcare and to make decisions about their healthcare."

Mr Hannan, who lives in Winchester, Hampshire, was first elected to the European Parliament in 1999. He is a fierce Eurosceptic and serves on both the Committee on Fisheries and the Delegation for Relations with Afghanistan.

Writing in his Daily Telegraph blog on Wednesday, Mr Hannan said: "I am not the Conservative Party's healthcare spokesman. I'm fond of Andrew Lansley and I strongly support David Cameron as party leader.

"On this issue, though, I disagree with both of them.

"Any suggestion the NHS might be improved upon is shouted down as an attack on the people in it, which is precisely the point I was making about how hard it is to reform so large a bureaucracy."



ROW: Daniel Hannan

## Pair arrested after hoax 'missing girl' call lead to search

TWO people arrested after a hoax call sparked a huge manhunt for a 'missing girl' have been released on police bail.

The 33-year-old man and 47-year-old woman, both from Rochester, were arrested after a caller to police on Thursday afternoon claimed a young girl – thought to be six years old – fell into the River Medway, near Sun Pier, Chatham.

Emergency services including the Thames Coastguard and a search helicopter were scrambled and spent more than an hour and a half scouring the riverside. Following an extensive search, no child was found.

The couple were arrested on suspicion of wasting police time. They are due back at Medway Police Station on September 24

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Servicemen injured in the Afghan conflict were among those in 22-mile relay swim across Channel



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Julie Maddocks explores Thanet  
Earth and meets secretary of state  
for the environment Hilary Benn



**FOOD SECURITY:** A consultation has been launched to improve the way food is grown, and scientists at East Malling Research showed minister Hilary Benn some of their work

# Science will fill our fridges

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

**SCIENTISTS** have spoken of the major role they play in ensuring the UK's food supply remains secure in the future.

This week the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs launched a consultation and is asking producers, supermarkets and consumers to contribute.

Between 60 and 65 per cent of food consumed in the UK is also produced in the country, and the horticultural scientists at East Malling Research (EMR) are among those working hard to ensure the trend continues in the years to come.

Chief executive Dr Mike Solomon described food security as a "key global issue".

He said: "The resources on which we depend are finite and we need a more high-tech approach to some production systems

because there will be fewer chemicals available in the future to kill pests and the like.

"A lot of our research is aimed at finding solutions for that problem.

"There are several motors driving us, one of which is that in future years we will be producing less meat because of the relatively efficient production of plant-based food.

"That's appealing to the UK because there is an increasing appreciation for the benefits of a healthy diet.

"Climate change is also having an impact on the types of crops we will be able to grow, but we've

been pretty nimble in adapting our technologies to suit that.

"I also think the UK is becoming more aware of the way the world is changing and can see the benefits of becoming self-sufficient."

In launching the consultation this week, Environment Secretary Hilary Benn said people needed to start thinking ahead about how to produce more food using less water and less fertiliser.

EMR is again leading the way in this area, having recently discovered a way to reduce the amount of water needed to grow a tonne of strawberries from 70 tonnes to just 10, while also improving taste and increasing the levels of antioxidants and vitamin C present.

The work has major implications, not just for UK growers but also fruit and vegetable producers in Spain, southern Europe and China.

Dr Solomon said: "This type of development is clearly pretty crucial when we are trying to

grow crops in a world where the amount of available water is decreasing, or we need it for other uses. The work is now being extended into all sorts of other crops, while we are also developing new plant types that will need less water."

The food security consultation has also sparked a debate about the use of 'best before' labels that are being blamed for the 364,000 tons of edible food that goes to waste in the UK every year.

Mr Benn has suggested removing the labels to cut down on the amount being binned, and EMR storage specialist David Johnson agreed.

He said: "During our research into the labelling and storage of fresh produce, we found that the time interval between 'sell by' and 'best before' date labels were often standardised across the range of fruit and vegetables – irrespective of the degree of perishability of particular products.

"It will save a great deal of misunderstanding and waste if consumers use their own judgement about whether their fruit and vegetables are OK to use and eat."



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# Rovers return for Gills

## Club to cash in on cup tie with Premiership side

GILLINGHAM FC are in line for another bumper payday after drawing Premiership side Blackburn Rovers in the second round of the Carling Cup, *writes Steve Knight*.

Kent's only Football League club received several unbudgeted cash boosts last season and will expect the same again when the former Premiership champions visit the Priestfield Stadium later this month.

Extra income will come Gillingham's way thanks to a packed house of at least 10,000 on Tuesday, August 25, while Sky Sports could also pay to screen the game live.

Manager Mark Stimson told KOS Media this week: "It's a fantastic draw. I said after the game the other night [against Plymouth Argyle in round one] that any big club would be great for the finances, and that's certainly what Blackburn are.

### Experience

"It was only a few years ago that I was at the Millennium Stadium watching them actually win the trophy, so it's a great draw and I look forward to it.

"Sam Allardyce is a fantastic manager with a fantastic team so it will be a good experience for myself and the players.

"Blackburn will be expecting to win the game, but we might just surprise them."

The first of several cash injections last season came when Gillingham drew another Premiership side, Aston Villa, at home in the third round of the FA Cup – a game that was screened live on ITV1.

It earned the club a pay day in the region of



**ACID TEST: Simeon Jackson gets another chance to take on Premiership opposition**

£300,000, with a similar amount received following the Gills' successful play-off campaign that culminated in a 1-0 win over Shrewsbury Town at Wembley.

England goalkeeper Paul Robinson is among Blackburn's collection of stars, along with Australia international Brett Emerton and South African striker Benni McCarthy.

Former Gillingham keeper Jason Brown is also a member of the Blackburn squad, but has made only a handful of first-team appearances in three years at the club.

Long-time Gills supporter Alan Liptrott, co-

editor of fansite GillsConnect.com, told Kent on Sunday it was about time some of the money was spent on new players.

He said: "I think the fans are looking for some injection of new blood into the club and a lot would definitely like to see another forward in the side because it looks like sooner or later Simeon Jackson will go.

"We all thought the big-money games would mean we'd have some cash to spend, but unfortunately it hasn't turned out quite like that. I think you can even tell in Stimson's voice that he would like some, too."

The last time Gillingham faced a Premiership side in the Carling Cup was in September, 2005, when they beat Portsmouth 3-2 after extra time in the third round.

Blackburn beat Tottenham Hotspur 2-1 to win the trophy in 2002, which marked their first major honour since winning the Premiership title seven years earlier.

Mr Liptrott said he expected a capacity crowd at Priestfield for the clash.

He added: "When we are the underdogs we tend to pull a few rabbits out of the hat, as we showed last season when we were very unlucky to lose to Villa.

"With a large crowd under the floodlights and all the excitement of the cup, I think we could well put on a good show."

The Gills have enjoyed a flying start to the current League One campaign, thrashing arch-rivals Swindon Town 5-0 last weekend, with star striker Jackson scoring a hat-trick.

Scouts from a number of big clubs watched him add to his tally on Tuesday night when the team pulled off a shock 2-1 victory over Championship side Plymouth Argyle in the cup.

## Ambulance makes Asian charity dash

A RETIRED ambulance and an old school minibus from Kent have been driven across Europe and Asia to be donated to a charity in Mongolia.

St John Ambulance Kent was about to scrap the 15-year-old Renault Crusader when a group of fundraisers approached the charity and asked if they could drive it to the capital of the central Asian country Ulaan Baatar.

The team, NAG (New Ash Green) Mongols was made up of three men and three women, who were taking part in the three-week rally for the first time.

Paul Endean, the NAG's team leader, said: "The generosity of St John Ambulance Kent in donating the vehicle will be received gratefully from the communities in Mongolia."

It has not been decided which charity in Mongolia will get the vehicles. Money is also being collected for the Kent Air Ambulance Trust, Ellenor Lions Hospice, Save the Children and The Children's Development Protection Fund.

## Surf's up online

A WEBSITE has been launched as a guide to canoeing, jet skiing, kite surfing, sailing, surfing, wakeboarding, waterskiing and wind-surfing available around the Kent coast.

The county has more miles of coastline than any other in the UK, and now residents and tourists will be able to discover the best water-based activities on offer thanks to the initiative by Visit Kent.

Anyone from beginners to experts can find information including the best campsites, hostels, hotels and B&Bs. There are also weather forecasts for the best local conditions.

Visit [www.kentsplash.co.uk](http://www.kentsplash.co.uk) and find the chance to win a one-day kite surfing course and windsurfing vouchers.

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# While acknowledging hard times ahead for communities, County Hall chief warns...

# 'We need positive thinking'

COUNTY Hall's most senior official has said a "magic bullet" from the public sector would not solve the social problems brought on by the recession, **writes Jenna Pudelek.**

Peter Gilroy, the chief executive of Kent County Council, was responding to a report by the Audit Commission, which found local authorities were not doing enough to prepare communities for the effects of the economic downturn.

"Councils should be prepared for worsening [social problems]," he said. "But the first thing to say about all of this is part of the danger is that we nationally drive ourselves into a self-fulfilling prophecy of doom and gloom everywhere."

"I'm not saying the Audit Commission is not partially correct, but overall if you keep saying something bad will happen, in the end it will. We have a responsibility to get the language a bit more upbeat."

The commission's report said councils should be planning for the social problems brought on by unemployment, such as addiction, alcoholism and domestic violence.

It said councils were facing the "second wave" of the downturn as the effects of rising business failures, bankruptcies and unemployment bite at communities.

"I think we can overplay that," Mr Gilroy said. "It is true risks will happen, but major social problems are not inevitable."

## Action to tackle the problems of the downturn

MEDWAY Council has seen an increase in the number of people claiming benefits and free school meals as the recession has begun to bite.

In response to the Audit Commission's report that local authorities are not doing enough to support their communities through the downturn, the council said it is set to launch a number of initiatives in the coming weeks.

Robin Cooper, the council's director of regeneration, community and culture, said: "We get regular updates on our income levels and statistics so we know what ways things are happening."

"Unemployment is up of course, it is about 4.5 per cent here at the moment, that was the figure a month ago, so it has probably gone up again."

The council is setting up a

Job Shop in Chatham High Street next week. Mr Cooper said it would include all the services people need to help them back into the workplace. It will also offer interview and CV tips, as well as advice about training for school leavers.

"We have just put forward a package with colleagues in Gravesend, Swale and Dartford, for 450 apprenticeships over the next few months,

working not just here in the council but across the public and private sector."

The commission's report highlights the social problems expected as a result of the recession, such as higher crime levels and issues with addiction and alcoholism.

Mr Cooper said the council was working with the police and primary care trust, NHS Medway, to monitor the situation.

"These are big issues and we have to get communities more engaged at helping themselves and not believing there is a magic bullet from the public sector that is going to solve these problems."

### Active

He said KCC had taken what the commission called a "more ambitious and active" approach to recession.

"As far as Kent is concerned, the political administration could see we were going into an extraordinary period and accepted that more people would be unemployed and the difficulties that then spin off that."

"One of the things we've done is given another £250,000 to the Citizens Advice

Bureau because we could see the demand was increasing.

"We have gateway services trying to offer services and help make sure people can go to a one-stop shop for advice."

"Kent Trading Standards and police are cracking down on loan sharks who target vulnerable people with sky-high interest rates. We have set up a credit union for the whole of Kent to offer affordable loans and savings with another £250,000 on that, which will launch before October."

He said the authority was working with the Energy Saving Trust so residents could save up £340 a year on bills.

"Kent is one of those ambitious places," he added. "We have gone the extra mile bring-

ing forward ideas and getting youngsters into apprenticeships and supporting business in different ways so people can stay at work rather than put them on the unemployment register."

KCC has opened 'gateway centres' in most of the county's main retail centres and also provides 'mobile gateways' to rural communities. They offer free internet access, daily surgeries by agencies such as Connexions and community health as well as advice on council tax, benefits, planning, housing, social care and adult education.

More information about getting through the tough economic times is at the authority's Backing Kent People site [www.kent.gov.uk/people](http://www.kent.gov.uk/people) or by calling 08458 247247.



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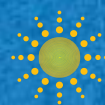


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# Doctor admits more may die from outbreak

By **JENNA PUDELEK**

jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

**THE HEAD** of the Health Protection Unit has not ruled out more deaths from an outbreak of legionnaires' disease.

Five cases of the infection have been confirmed and one patient, who was admitted to the Kent and Canterbury Hospital already ill from Legionella bacteria, died last Saturday.

Dr Mathi Chandrakumar director of the Kent Health Protection Unit (HPU), which is investigating the outbreak, said it was difficult to say at this stage whether more people with the respiratory disease would die.

He said: "They are all elderly people and suffer from a number of other conditions, so they are frail as well."

East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust said two or three people are believed to have been infected by bacteria from a showerhead at the William Harvey Hospital in Ashford.

The others are believed to have picked up the infection at home or in the community.

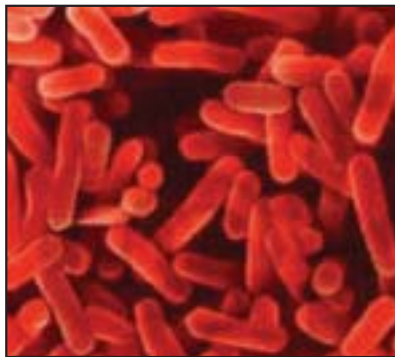
Two elderly female patients are seriously ill but stable, and the other two patients are responding to treatment, the trust said.

In a letter to all staff the trust's medical director, Dr Neil Martin, said the trust anticipated there may be other people developing the infection, who have either become infected in hospital or in the community.

"A further complication is that initial symptoms are similar to those of swine flu," Dr Martin said. "Because of this, there is a possibility that once swine flu has been diagnosed... other problems may be overlooked."

Staff have been asked to be extra vigilant when diagnosing, treating or caring for people, particularly vulnerable groups such as those with underlying clinical problems.

Dr Martin said if patients do not respond to antivirals, further tests should be carried out. He added: "We need to be extra cautious over the next few weeks as we may see fur-



**AT RISK:** The people who have been infected with legionnaires' disease all have underlying health problems

ther patients who may have caught the infection at the William Harvey before the problem was recognised."

The incubation period for Legionella can be up to 14 days and symptoms include a flu-like illness such as muscle aches, dry cough, fever, tiredness and sometimes diarrhoea.

Legionnaires' disease is a rare form of pneumonia caused by a type of bacteria that is found in the environment.

It causes disease when it is spread through the air as a spray or vapour from a water source, and droplets are inhaled. It cannot be spread from one person to another.

As a precaution and to ensure more were not at risk, the William Harvey's water system has been flushed through and the use of baths, showers and water births has been stopped until all the fittings were disinfected.

The HPU's Dr Chandrakumar said that precautions taken meant patients were no longer at risk, but the source of the disease in the community has yet to be discovered.

Anyone who has visited the William Harvey between July 27 and August 9 and has or develops a flu-like illness or chest infection within 14 days should call their GP or the helpline on 01233 616161.

## New eco food depot to rise from the ashes

A MULTI-million pound food distribution depot is set to create hundreds of jobs when it opens in Paddock Wood.

The new 3663 First for Foodservice depot has been built on the same site as a former Whirpool warehouse, which burnt down four years ago.

The food distribution company behind the new £17.6 million depot will merge its Edenbridge and Sevenoaks branches, and will eventually employ a team of 350 staff.

The company's chief executive, Fred Barnes, said the materials on the former Whirpool site were reused for the new eco-friendly development. He said: "Transport and distribution aren't high up on anyone's list of eco-friendly businesses, but we set out more than a decade ago to make this business as green as it could be."

## Switch over gives green light to the environment

ALL the traffic lights in Kent are being replaced with cost-effective low-energy units.

This summer Kent Highway Services will complete its countywide replacement programme costing £1.7 million.

County Hall says the switch will save up to £150,000 a year on electricity bills, and the bulbs will have to be changed less frequently as the light-emitting diode units have a life expectancy of 10 years.

Environmental savings of carbon dioxide are expected to total one tonne a year.

Kent County Council cabinet member for highways Cllr Nick Chard said: "The switch from existing halogen lamps will result in substantial financial and environmental savings.



This is a good example which shows 'going green' makes sound business sense."

There are 290 road junction controllers and 377 pedestrian crossing controllers which are being switched under the two-year programme, due for completion in September.



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See page 35

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KENT SATURDAY KENT SUNDAY

## Fields papered over with bad smell of sludge

EXPERTS have been called in to deal with another revolting smell drifting over Swale.

Environment Agency officers were first asked for help last month after families complained of a nauseating smell.

The odour, at first wrongly dubbed the Sheppey Stink after appearing to originate on the island, was actually tracked down to paper sludge spread over a field just south of the M2 near Sittingbourne.

Agency experts have been working with the farmer and contractors to reduce the smell as quickly as possible.

Steps taken include spreading an odour suppressant – potassium permanganate – over the field and ploughing the paper sludge further into the field.

### Waste products

But after receiving another 70 phone calls on Wednesday complaining about another smell, EA officers returned to Swale to see what they can do.

Alan Cansdale, environment manager for the agency, said: "People have had to put up with a series of bad smells in the area over the last few months.

"We would like to reassure them that we're doing all we can. Unfortunately, this seasonal spreading of sludge has coincided with a period of very still, muggy weather, which has made the problem worse.

"Under normal circumstances, spreading paper sludge and other materials is a very good way of using waste materials to benefit the environment."

Paper sludge is one of a number of waste products spread on to land for agricultural benefit or ecological improvement.

# Witches and pagans flock to cathedral city

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

PAGANS have flocked to one of the spiritual homes of Christianity for a weekend of magic, music and witchcraft.

The annual Goddess Festival and Parade kicked off yesterday in the cathedral city of Canterbury, with visitors promised a large number of performances and exhibitors.

Wrongly associated with devil-worship and witchcraft, paganism is an umbrella term for a number of religions – including druidry and heathenry – which are almost all focused around nature.

Organiser Matthew Callow, 19, told Kent on Sunday he had received no complaints over choosing Canterbury to host the event.

He said: "Paganism has nothing to do with the Devil – that was just an old Christian concept used to scare people away from paganism. We have a saying 'harm none, do what you will', which means do whatever you want as long as it doesn't hurt anybody.

"Canterbury is very multi-cultural and all sorts of people and religions are welcome.

"We've had no problems at all and everyone has been supportive in what we are trying to achieve."



**MISUNDERSTOOD?: Pagan beliefs look to a goddess as well as a god in their faith**

A Canterbury Cathedral spokesman said he did not realise such a festival was taking place in the city, but added that "Christianity is the best form of religion".

He added: "People are free to make their own choices about what they want to do, but I think they're better off going to church."

Giants, drummers, dancers, stilt-walkers and magical performers were all due to take part in yesterday's opening parade through the main high street, which marked the opening of the festival in the Westgate Hall.

Today's opening ceremony takes place at 10.30am and will be led by modern witches Janet Farrar and Gavin Bone, who have written a number of books on paganism, magic and witchcraft.

Performances will be given by a number of spiritual groups including Faeries Wear Boots, and Dragonfly Moon, while visitors will be able to take part in workshops on dance, musical instruments and chanting.

### Spiritual

Mr Callow said: "There are all sorts of things going on and anybody can come along.

"We are celebrating the freedom to express what we believe in because a lot of people still don't understand what paganism about. We believe there is a Goddess as well as a God, and that nature is sacred and should be respected.

"Hopefully as many people as possible come along and find out what it's all about.

"I have lots of friends who have no spiritual beliefs at all, but when I explain to them what paganism is they seem to understand it a lot more than some other religions."

Admission to the festival is £5 for adults, £2.50 for children and £2 for pensioners.

See [www.goddessfestivals.co.uk](http://www.goddessfestivals.co.uk) for details.

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## Broken heart drove mum to kill herself

A GRIEVING mother-of-five committed suicide at the same beauty spot where her fiancé had drowned himself just weeks earlier, an inquest heard.

Darelle Anderson, who was known as Dee, took sleeping pills and went to Leybourne Lakes in Larkfield on October 16, 2008.

It was also where her partner Brian Anderson, with whom she had a baby daughter, had died eight weeks before.

A tribute on the website Gone Too Soon described her as "so full of life it bubbled all around her" and as a devoted mother to her five children Steve, Bradley, Paige, Alex and foster son Adam.

### Devastated

Her friend Jane Adams said she was devastated after the loss of Mr Anderson because "they had promised they would grow old together and die together with their ashes mixed as one".

The couple used to take their baby, Alex, to Leybourne Lakes to feed the ducks together. "When I last saw Dee, she was just a shadow of her former self, under normal circumstances I do not think she would have

dreamt of leaving her children, but she was such a deeply caring person and could not live with the heartache and guilt she felt for Brian," her online tribute reads.

At the inquest in Maidstone on Tuesday, coroner Roger Sykes, who recorded a verdict of suicide, said: "I know how badly affected Dee had been, to the extent that, though she had a very young baby, her feelings of grief overwhelmed her maternal instincts."

He said that social services had asked her friend, Sally Martin, to act as a carer for her children after Mr Anderson's death.

It was revealed at the inquest that she had told Miss Martin that she wanted to "join Brian" and she had written a letter three days before her death indicating she was contemplating taking her own life.

Mr Sykes added: "It is a very sad case."

Miss Anderson, 34, had only lived in Snodland for two years and had moved from Lewisham in south east London to make a "fresh start".

It was in Kent that she fell in love with her neighbour, Mr Anderson. Her friend Miss Martin is now bringing up their child, according to the online tribute.

## Rare moths thriving at castle

A HISTORIC Kent garden has proved to be a paradise for hundreds of butterflies and moths, a new survey has shown.

The warden and a volunteer have found 221 moth species and 20 different butterflies over the last month at Sissinghurst Castle Garden, which is run by the National Trust.

Moth survey volunteer Steve Broyd said

the best time to spot them was 4.30am as the sun rises across the Weald when exotic species, such as the bright pink elephant hawk and bordered beauty, can be seen.

Warden Peter Dear said butterflies found in the gardens included the rare white letter hairstreak, which has suffered a dramatic decline recently due to disease.



# I've got a new heart and lung, and now I've won gold too

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

A CYSTIC fibrosis patient given a 30 per cent chance of survival has beaten the odds by striking gold at the British Transplant Games.

Sevenoaks resident James Baxter picked up four medals at this month's event in Coventry – nine years after successfully undergoing a dangerous operation for a new heart and lung.

The 35-year-old told Kent on Sunday that while the transplant affected his health at first, participating in the games every summer had helped him get back on his feet.

He said: "I was born with cystic fibrosis and by the time I was 26 I needed a new lung. Because of the way technology was at the time, it was better to undergo a heart transplant as well.

"The survival rate has improved rapidly since, but for me it was only 30 per cent at the time, so I consider myself very lucky."

Cystic fibrosis is the UK's most common life-threatening inherited disease, affecting more than 8,000 people nationwide. It affects the internal organs – especially the lungs and digestive system – by clogging them with thick mucus.

More than 900 patients suffering from a wide range of illnesses took part in this year's games, which are organised every year by the charity Transplant Sport UK.

James has won medals at all nine he has participated in, but his badminton doubles victory earned him his first gold. He also scooped silver in the track relay and bronze in the long jump and archery.

James said: "People awaiting transplants are often worried they won't be the same again, but the games show that it doesn't have to be that way. It also reassures people who are considering being donors that their organs really can help people a great deal."

According to Transplant Sport UK, the number of potential donors in the country is falling, while the number of people waiting for a transplant is on the rise.

Last year about 2,800 lives were saved or dramatically improved thanks to the generosity of donors.



**SUCCESS:** James Baxter won his first gold medal at the British Transplant Games in Coventry

## Cash to bring empty homes back into use

PEOPLE who own empty homes in Dartford are being offered financial help to bring them back into use.

No Use Empty, a Kent-wide initiative, has joined forces with Dartford Borough Council to help the owners of empty homes renovate their properties and create new accommodation.

Kent County Council has earmarked £5 million to help property owners pay for renovations to bring homes back into use.

The loan scheme is intended

for any owner of an empty property, or someone who is considering buying an empty property, if the property has been empty for six months or more.

The owner can apply for a loan of up to £25,000 per unit to a maximum of £175,000.

The loan can be made on properties that have been empty for at least six months, as long as the property is sold or made available to rent after completion of the necessary works.

See [www.no-use-empty.org](http://www.no-use-empty.org).

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**Calais lighthouse**

If you've never been to Calais, then this lighthouse is a great place to start - it boasts panoramic views of the port and city centre. And you can tune into ship radio frequencies to listen in on nearby ships at its interactive centre.

**The Musée 39-45**

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## Fashion sales soar at centre

BLUEWATER shopping centre has announced a 2.1 per cent increase in sales for July, against the same month last year.

Fashion sales drove the success, returning an increase of 3.3 per cent compared to the previous year.

Many retailers reported strong demand for knitwear due to the poor weather, and a number of brands sold significant volumes of formal fashion for summer events, along with women's shoes and bags.

Catering also experienced a 5.2 per cent increase in sales, and foreign holidays did better than expected because of the poor weather at home.



## Highways chiefs target illegal skips

FIRMS illegally placing skips on roads and pavements are facing a clampdown.

Kent Highway Services has introduced a £47 retrospective skip licence fee and firms that fail to comply could be fined up to £1,000.

Companies also have to pay £20 for every week the skip is on the highway and have been sent a reminder letter explaining why they must have a licence. Without one, they could create a hazard with the skip's location, lack of lighting and guarding, and time limits.

If a licence is not applied for within 48 hours, the highway service will take steps to have the skip removed and could start a prosecution.

Skip companies could be liable for removal and storage costs, and fined if found guilty.

KCC cabinet member for highways Cllr Nick Chard said: "The majority of skip operators are acting properly and we do not wish to disrupt their activity."

MORE passengers in Kent are set to experience the new high-speed rail service to London St Pancras ahead of its launch in December, *writes Jenna Pudelek.*

Southeastern says the preview of its 140mph trains will be extended to Ramsgate, Canterbury, Dover Priory, and Folkestone Central and West, from September 7.

Tunde Olatunji, Kent spokesman for the rail watchdog Passenger Focus, said: "Clearly these extensions to the preview are very welcome. What it does is start to expand the service to look more like it will come December [when the full timetable is introduced]."

"Passengers from Ramsgate and Dover can now join the high-speed service from their stations and there are times savings to be had, which are welcome. There is a cost attached and clearly we have general concerns about the affordability of premium fares."

### Improvements

The preview of the service, which has been running since July from Ashford and Ebbsfleet, has been broadly praised.

All the new services will run at 'normal speed' to Ashford International, where the high-speed line begins. This means Ashford also gets an additional peak service on top of the current three trains to St Pancras.

Travelling from the Kent stations to St Pancras using the High Speed 1 (HS1) trains will cost passengers an extra £18.90 on a weekly ticket. Returns and singles will cost an extra £8.50 and £4.40 from all the stations respectively.

Mr Olatunji welcomed the choice the expansion of the preview will give passengers, but he said improvements were still needed for people using the mainline trains.

"With the Thanet services, with the currently track it takes up to two hours [to London] so infrastructure improvements are needed by Network Rail."

## Rail firm extends high-speed service ahead of schedule



HS1: High-speed fleet is due in December

"The east Kent re-signalling programme to improve the quality of the infrastructure is needed and that should lead to faster services on the classic line."

Charles Horton, Southeastern's managing director, said the rail operator wanted as many people as possible to experience the service before its full launch in December.

He said: "We always hoped we could expand the preview service and thanks to the success of the first weeks we are now in a position to do this."

Mr Horton said the new services will "radically" improve journey times; for example saving 49 minutes on the average commute

from Ramsgate and 47 minutes from Dover.

There will be two morning peak services from Ramsgate, departing at 6am and 7.05am via Canterbury West, and two peak services from Dover Priory, at 6.42am and 7.42am, via the Folkestone stations.

An off-peak service is also being introduced between St Pancras International and Ashford International via Ebbsfleet.

"The high-speed service means passengers from Dover will be able to reach London in just over an hour where it now takes nearly two hours, making it a town where you can now easily commute from," Mr Horton added.

"The high-speed services we hope will act as a real catalyst for the economy in the region, but above all, what the high-speed service provides is real choice for passengers."

### Punctuality

Over the past four weeks passenger numbers have grown above expectation and the trains have achieved punctuality of more than 99 per cent.

Some 600 passengers a day have been using HS1 and enjoying the 37 minute journey time from Ashford, which shaves 46 minutes off the mainline time.

A fleet of 29 trains will come into service from December 13, running on the UK's first high-speed line.

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## Wet summer good news for water levels

WHILE July's heavy rain dampened most people's spirits, officials at the Environment Agency were celebrating.

The agency says water levels are now back to normal for the time of year.

In Kent the average rainfall for July was 78.9mm, or 165 per cent of the average rainfall expected for July.

Rainfall in April, May and June was low and water levels in rivers, lakes, ponds and streams were reaching worryingly low levels, said officials.

The agency received several reports of fish in distress after a period of hot, dry weather in June.

But heavy rainfall last month has restored the balance and now river flows, reservoir levels and groundwater are all within healthy ranges.

Simon Pearson, strategic environmental planning manager for the Environment Agency, said: "At the end of June our water situation was looking very worrying for wildlife.

"We had had three months of warm, dry weather and the environment was really starting to suffer.

"Nearly twice the normal rainfall for July across large swathes of the region has improved the situation and water levels are back to normal in most places.

"However, if we have another hot, dry period in August we could see more problems for wildlife.

"We would urge members of the public to look out for their local environment. Any incidents can be reported to the Environment Agency on 0800 807 060.

FORGET the chip shop, the spirit of Elvis is alive and well and doing gigs at... Canterbury Cathedral, *writes Chris Murphy.*

His songs will be blasting out for the congregation in the House of God during a one-off special performance in the nave.

While the King was shocking audiences with his swivelling hips, he also harboured a love of gospel music – of his 14 Grammy nominations, his three wins were all for gospel recordings.

Now, on the 32nd anniversary of the King's death, the cathedral is staging this unique event in aid of its fundraising appeal.

His third gospel album, *His Hand In Mine*, went multi-platinum and is still selling well.

To mark the album's 50th anniversary in 2010, the Elvis Presley Fan Club, in association with the Canterbury Cathedral Appeal, will stage Elvis in the Cathedral, a concert of the King's gospel music on Saturday, April 17, next year.

The show will be performed by the Always Elvis Gospel Group, accompanied by a gospel choir for many of the songs.

Michael Davis, of the Elvis Presley Fan Club, said: "Their renditions of Elvis gospel numbers are heart-stoppingly perfect, so much so this group is now in demand throughout the country.

"The sound of these gospels, presented in the way Elvis sang them, will fill the cathedral with sheer joy – not only for Elvis fans, nor just for those who like gospel music, but for anyone with a love of good music."

Tickets range from £25 for a top-priced seat to £7, with all proceeds going towards the Canterbury Cathedral Appeal.

It has now reached £9.3 million, but there is a long way to go to reach the £50m target. The donations have helped pay for vital conservation work to the fabric of the cathedral and through the modernisation of the Choir House, the continuation of the historic choral tradition.

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## Cathedral will host gospel according to king of rock 'n' roll



ALL SHOOK UP: Always Elvis Gospel Group will be performing the King's hits in Canterbury



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# Survivor makes cancer film

By **CHRIS MURPHY**

editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

BREAST cancer survivor Janet Tucker has joined actress Sheila Hancock to make a video urging women to fight back against fear of the disease.

Keen rambler Janet is now 60, but the Bromley woman said she was in fear of her life when she spotted something was wrong.

With treatment, she is now leading a healthy life, and is urging all women to check themselves and

seek medical advice the moment they detect anything is wrong with their breasts.

In the short video made by Cancer Research, Ms Hancock said: "Well over 20 years ago I was diagnosed with cancer – breast cancer – and I was terrified.

"But thanks to medical science, here I still am. And the most important thing was that although the prognosis in those days wasn't very good, I actually detected mine quite early and how did I do that?"

"I did it myself by regularly feeling my breasts and feeling that something was amiss.

"And my instinct told me that I

needed to pursue it, which I did.

"The most important thing is to get tested early or better still, know your own body. And with the help of your husband or your partner maybe, discover anything slightly different and do something about it.

"Don't be frightened. Be like me, be hale and hearty when you're old, despite breast cancer."

It's a message back by Mrs Tucker who got the bad news near Christmas five years ago.

She said: "I first noticed there was something wrong when I was in the bath.

"My nipple didn't look right, it was a bit inverted. I put that down to the cold weather.

"I didn't particularly want to go to the doctor straight away because I had so much happening.

## Checked out

"We were moving house and waiting to complete and exchange but after a week or two I decided I ought to get it checked out, which I did, and the doctor immediately arrange for me to go to the local hospital to meet the breast surgeon.

"When I was told it was cancer, my heart sank to my boots. I knew I would have to have an operation and it's very difficult when you have family – it is a worry."

Her treatment involved surgery, followed by chemotherapy.

She said: "I went into hospital for a lumpectomy on the Monday, where a small lump of breast tissue



**DON'T LEAVE IT: (l-r)** In a new health video, cancer survivor Janet Tucker and actress Sheila Hancock urge women to seek medical advice

was removed with the cancer, and I came out the following Friday.

"I moved on the day I came out of hospital so I had lots to look forward to."

The school administrator had signed up for dance classes, and said: "I've been line-dancing for 12 years. Other members of my club were supportive when I was going through my treatment, and I used to go along and watch the dancing even if I couldn't go up and dance.

"I would say to any woman who notices anything wrong with her breasts to get it checked out as soon as possible.

"Hopefully there won't be anything wrong, but if you do need treatment the sooner it's started the better.

"I've had so many good things

happen to me since I've had my treatment."

The film is being screened at GPs' surgeries in Kent and the rest of the UK, plus it can be seen online at [www.spotcancerearly.com](http://www.spotcancerearly.com).

The earlier the diagnoses and treatment start, the better chance of survival and recovery, they said.

At least 5,000 deaths a year in the UK could be prevented if the disease was diagnosed earlier, the group said.

Janet said: "Check yourself regularly and if you find something that's not normal for you, get it checked out as soon as possible.

"If you do need treatment, the sooner it starts, the better. When told I thought the worst – I thought my days were numbered."

## Cables to be removed from beauty spot

POWER lines are coming down at Cobham Park, near Rochester, in the Kent Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

EDF Energy Networks has invested more than £150,000 in the project to remove nearly a mile of overhead elec-

tricity lines, 19 wooden support poles and a transformer from the landscape near the Darnley Mausoleum.

Engineers have finished installing replacement underground electricity cables and on Monday started work on removing the power lines and

wooden poles. This final stage is due to be completed by the end of the month.

Tim Owen, of the Kent Downs AONB unit said: "It is fantastic to get this project completed, it is another step towards the enhancement of this special landscape."

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# Brothers had terrorised own gran before Baby P

EVIL brothers responsible for the death of Baby Peter had also been accused of terrorising their own grandmother into including them in her will, *writes Steve Knight*.

The shocking allegation emerged this week after the youngster's mother Tracey Connelly, 28, and her partner Steven Barker, 33 – who are both now behind bars – were finally identified by the courts.

It was also revealed that fellow defendant Jason Owen, 37, from Bromley – previously referred to as the couple's lodger – had changed his surname and was actually Barker's older brother.

In 1995, the siblings were charged with assaulting their 82-year-old grandmother Hilda Barker, from Whitstable, in an attempt to make her change her will.

The case was dropped when she died and was unable to give evidence in court, but she had earlier told police how her grandsons had once locked her in a wardrobe.

Former neighbour David Cole revealed to the BBC how he was unaware at the time what Mrs Barker was being put through.

He said: "As we understand, when she got sent to the home then that's where we really found out what happened – bruises to her body, getting locked up in a cupboard.



**BRUTAL:** (From left) Connelly, and brothers Barker and Owen were jailed for Peter's death

"They used to wear Halloween masks to frighten her, maybe all along to get her to change her will to the boys' names."

Mr Cole also revealed how whenever he spoke to his neighbour over the garden fence, she would always be flanked by the brothers.

He added: "Always one either side of her. One day she just happened to raise up her arm and said 'look, I've got all these bruises Dave'. I asked 'how did you get them?' and then one of the boys said 'oh, she fell over'."

Seventeen-month-old Baby P – now identified as Peter Connelly – died after receiving sustained abuse at the hands of his mother and the brothers in Haringey, north London, in August, 2007.

In May this year, Connelly and Barker were

given minimum terms of five and 12 years respectively for allowing his death, while Owen – who has a teenage girlfriend – was jailed for three years.

Barker was also given a life sentence for raping a two-year-old girl in a separate court case.

A judge had previously ordered that none of the defendants could be named because Peter had four siblings who were still being placed with alternative carers.

Last week Kent on Sunday revealed how the tragedy had led to an increase in the number of people from the county speaking out if they believed a child was being abused.

According to the NSPCC, just over 2,200 people had called its 24-hour helpline between April, 2008, and March this year.

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## Competition to capture Kent's changing ways

KEEN photographers are being asked to get out and about this summer to take pictures showing the changing nature of the county's environment.

The Capturing Climate Change competition run by Kent County Council is for digital photographs, is open to all ages, and there are a range of prizes to be won.

These include family tickets for Howletts and Port Lympne, Eagle Heights, Quex House and Gardens, the Powell-Cotton Museum, and a Kentish Lady River Cruise.

Other prizes are entry tickets to Bewl Water, KCC walking packs and a memory card from the Pantiles Camera Shop.

The images will go on show at the Environment Awards for Kent Business in September.

The pictures must be taken in Kent, but there's no time limit. They can reflect different seasons, or be taken in previous years.

Kent on Sunday editor Ian Patel will be one of the competition's judges.

KCC environment director Linda Davies said: "This is a wonderful opportunity for people living and working in Kent to show us the county's changing environment."

"It will also enable us to build a big picture of the impact climate change is having across the county."

The closing date for entries is September 5.

For more information visit [www.kent.gov.uk/greenkent](http://www.kent.gov.uk/greenkent).

# Everything's coming up rosé for our winemakers

FOUR Kent vineyards were popping the corks after doing well at this year's Decanter World Wine Awards.

While Bordeaux, Champagne and even Chablis, may spring to mind when considering the best wines in the world, it seems Cranbrook and Tenterden need to be added to the list.

The organisers of the most influential and prestigious wine competition in the world, said the Kent winemakers have put the county on the global wine map.

The awards attracted more entries from producers across the globe than ever before, yet despite the increased competition four Kentish wineries scooped an impressive nine awards between them, including the much-sought after Regional Trophy.

The Chapel Down Winery in Tenterden scooped five medals.

They were two bronzes for its Rosé Brut NV and Pinot Reserve 2004, plus three that were commended. They were Century Extra Dry NV, plus Brut NV and Bacchus Reserve 2007.

Boss Guy Tresnan said: "We are delighted to

have been recognised for the quality of our wines, particularly as these awards are international.

"After the announcement we got calls from around the world from potential trade customers and consumers, genuinely engaged by what we are doing here in the heart of the Kent."

Meopham Valley was awarded a commended for its Brut 2004, and a bronze for its Rosé Brut 2005. Owner David Grey said: "This year's success validates our wines internationally as well as validating them to our consumers."

Gusbourne Estate Vineyard in Ashford took a bronze for the Classic Blend 2006.

And Hush Heath Manor in Cranbrook won a Regional Trophy for its Balfour Brut Rosé.

Richard Balfour-Lynn, producer at Hush Heath, said: "We all feel enormous pride at winning the Decanter World Wine gold medal and trophy. This gives the whole team involved with Balfour Brut Rosé a huge boost and provides the encouragement to know that we are on the right track in creating an English pink fizz that can



CHEERS: Richard Balfour-Lynn, winner of the Regional Trophy

compete with the best French Rosé Champagnes. "The passion with which we grow our grapes and make our wine, combined with enormous attention to detail, has lead to us winning this prestigious award."

Christelle Guibert, Decanter's tastings director said it was a great result for the county.

She said: "This is a fantastic result for UK wines and further proof, should anyone need it, that home-produced bottles can compete at an international level. The raft of awards for England and Wales this year is testament to the world-class quality of locally produced wines. It is a delight to be able to showcase them in our globally recognised competition."

Kent did so well it has help convince the chairman of the awards, Steven Spurrier and his wife Bella, to pick the region to embark on their very own vineyard.

Mr Spurrier recognises the value of the Decanter World Wine Awards for UK vineyards, and said: "I feel this year the awards have moved from being a successful wine competition into an arena where it is a beacon for wine all around the world."

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A CONVICTED drug dealer who fled to Spain three years ago has finally started his 10-year jail sentence, **writes Chris Murphy.**

Used-car dealer Robert Colyer was granted bail after being charged with a string of drug offences involving millions.

He used that opportunity to flee to Spain. But after extradition, he appeared at Canterbury Crown Court this week and was jailed for 10 years and four months.

The 41-year-old from Island Road, Hersden, near Canterbury, should have appeared in court in November, 2006, but he never showed up.

While he fled to the sun, he was found guilty in his absence at a trial in January, 2007, of conspiring to supply controlled drugs worth more than £2 million.

It was then the 10-year sentence was handed down by Canterbury Crown Court.

Judge Van Der Bijl has now increased that term by four months as punishment for not attending court.

The saga started when Kent Police was contacted by the Scottish Drug Enforcement Agency in 2005.

They were after a drugs courier, who turned out to be Colyer. Investigations led to his commercial garage on the outskirts of Canterbury.

Colyer was caught in Scotland with 100 kilos of herbal cannabis worth £300,000.

The subsequent investigation by the Organised Crime Unit at Kent Police revealed Colyer had imported 630 kilos of cannabis from Italy via Holland with an estimated street value of more than £2m.

Before he could face trial, he fled to Spain with his wife and two children.

Kent detectives tracked him to Malaga, and a European arrest warrant was obtained for his arrest.

In July this year, Spanish authorities arrested Colyer on behalf of Kent Police.

Det Insp Eddie Fox, from the Organised

## Pair lead teams out at Wembley

LUCKY youngsters from Kent lived the dream by leading their football heroes out at Wembley.

Christopher London, eight, from Orpington, and Harvey Luckett, eight, from Meopham, near Gravesend, escorted the stars of Manchester United and Chelsea onto the world-famous turf before the two sides battled it out for the FA Community Shield.

The youngsters – who won a McDonald's competition to get to Wembley – also had the chance to meet England's 1966 World Cup hero Sir Geoff Hurst.

Sir Geoff said: "It's great to give these youngsters this experience as it's something they will remember forever."

Chelsea won last Sunday's game on penalties.

# £2m drug courier who fled to Spain brought to justice



JAIL: Robert Colyer

Crime Unit, said: "It is very satisfying to finally bring this case to a conclusion.

"Significantly, Colyer was a major player in an international drugs syndicate that knew no boundaries. This was a particularly serious crime made worse by the fact the offender went on the run and lived as a fugitive for nearly three years.

"In bringing the offender back to Britain to serve his prison term, and having disrupted the drugs syndicate, we have probably saved lives.

"Drug trafficking fuels all sorts of criminality and has a devastating effect on the lives of already vulnerable people.

"Kent Police will do everything possible to

ensure that offenders are held accountable for their actions and where they run from the law we will pursue them until caught and bring them back to Britain no matter how much time passes.

"Kent Police will now apply to the courts for the £92,000 in cash that was restrained by officers following the original investigation."

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# Firm launches new coach and ferry services

A CROSS-Channel ferry company is also getting into the commuter coach business with a launch of a Ramsgate to London service.

Euroferries said it will be making an announcement later in the year about the launch and pricing of the commuter service.

In a statement, it said: "Further announcements will be forthcoming in the near future, including Euroferries' partners, ferry services, timetable, pricing and booking arrangements in addition to further announcements regarding the introduction of Euroferries commuter coach service between London and Ramsgate."

The news came as it launches its ferry link between Boulogne and Ramsgate, having signed agreements with both ports.

Called the Bonanza Express, the fast service will be operated by Euroferries with Fred. Olsen by the end of the month.

## Tourist traffic

There will be five daily crossings on its catamaran, which has a capacity of 146 first class and 570 additional passengers, carrying a combination of cars and coaches. It can hit speeds of 38 knots, which the company says will enable it to cross the Channel in a time that competes port-to-port with the Channel Tunnel.

A second vessel will join the Bonanza Express service in the future, carrying a combination of cars and luxury coaches.

Euroferries chairman, Per Staehr said: "The signing of this agreement with Thanet District Council enables us to look forward to building a long term relationship with the community.

"Our new five-crossing-a-day high-speed service, will be focused on tourist traffic and takes full advantage of the new motorways, both to Ramsgate and Boulogne, along with the fast terminal facilities within both ports."

He said online bookings will be launched soon, along with details of the coach service between London's Stratford Hub and Ramsgate, serving Canterbury and Medway.



OPPORTUNITY: A wide variety of people take part in the Ride and Walk, meaning you're bound to make new friends as you explore



# Explore the county as you support churches

AN EVENT that has so far raised almost £2 million for the restoration of churches celebrates its 25th anniversary next month.

Last year more than 1,200 cyclists and ramblers took part in the sponsored Ride and Walk, generating a further £147,000 for repairs to historic churches and chapels throughout the county.

Committee member Val Sparks said the event – which is organised by the Friends of

Kent Churches – played a big part in protecting people's local heritage.

She said: "When you think many of the buildings have Norman origins and go back possibly 1,000 years, they will inevitably need repairs. Even new houses need al-

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

most constant maintenance, but with churches it's on a much larger scale.

"There's also the problem that you can't get any old builder in when something needs fixing – they need to be highly skilled and know all about traditional techniques. The cost of it all can be very scary.

"That's why it's so upsetting when you get people who steal lead from church roofs, because it's so expensive to replace."

## Carbon footprint

This year's Ride and Walk, which takes place between 10am-6pm on Saturday, September 12, will see about 750 churches across Kent opening their doors.

Participants can plan their own route and walk or cycle to as many different churches or chapels as they like.

Half of the money raised will go to a church or chapel of each participant's choice, with the rest donated to the Friends of Kent Churches to distribute to the buildings most in need of repair.

Mrs Sparks said: "Those who take part always find it memorable and enjoyable because they meet people they wouldn't normally meet and it gives them the chance to get out into our lovely countryside, too.

"Village churches in particular present an overwhelming sense of peace and tranquility. They reflect a community over generations and people have become more interested in them recently because restoration programmes and the like have made them more aware of their heritage.

"Normally the church is the oldest building in a community, and many of them are so quirky and fascinating."

The Ride and Walk is a national event that started in Suffolk in 1982, and is now held in 31 counties throughout the UK.

Kent's version began in 1984 and several of the founding committee members are still involved today.

Asked if she thought the event could survive for another 25 years, Mrs Sparks replied: "If we are as good at changing and adapting as our historic church buildings are then we will certainly still be about.

"Perhaps it will become even more popular as people start to use bicycles more, what with the price of fuel and looking to reduce their carbon footprints."

Visit [www.friendsofkentchurches.co.uk/bike\\_ride.php](http://www.friendsofkentchurches.co.uk/bike_ride.php) or call event co-ordinator Carolyn Millen on 01622 843383.

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## Flood gates to undergo vital refurbishment

A FLOOD barrier is being refurbished to ensure it can continue to protect 1,500 homes and businesses in Tonbridge.

The Leigh Barrier is made up of three large moveable gates that hold back floodwater, reducing river flows downstream.

It was built in 1981 and the Environment Agency has just completed initial maintenance work to overhaul and improve the gate-lifting mechanisms.

And work started this week to install an emergency lifting system.

This will ensure that if the gates ever fail, a back-up system will ensure the barrier can continue to do its job. This work will be complete by October.

The barrier has been used many times, but its biggest challenge was in October, 2000.

When torrential rain fell, water from the swollen river Medway was successfully held back, with the reservoir nearing its full capacity in just a few hours.

Neil Gunn of the Environment Agency said: "The Leigh Barrier has proved it can work extremely well under severe conditions and many people and properties in the area benefit from the barrier."

"With the effects of climate change, we are facing bigger challenges and need to make sure the barrier is ready for them."

For advice on flooding or to find out if your home is at risk, you can visit the website [www.environment-agency.gov.uk](http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk) or call Floodline on 0845 988 1188.

## KENT ON SUNDAY READER OFFER

# Buy one get one free on open-air cinema tickets



OPEN-air cinema – the perfect summer entertainment, especially with Kent on Sunday's exclusive buy one get one free offer.

Classic films on a big screen in some of Kent's most beautiful and historic settings... sounds like the perfect way to spend a summer's evening.

Add to this a picnic, a glass of Pimm's, strawberries and of course popcorn and you have an unforgettable experience.

This summer, The Screen On The Green is bringing open-air cinema to Kent with screenings at venues throughout the county, including St Augustine's Abbey in Canterbury, Walmer and Richborough castles in the south east, and two manor houses in north Kent – Cobham Hall in Cobham



and Nurstead Court, Meopham.

You are also invited to bring a picnic along, though food and drink is also available on site. Cinema under the stars needs to be enjoyed with a glass of something refreshing in your hand while munching on popcorn!

The dates and films being screened are as follows:

- Thursday, August 20, Breakfast At Tiffany's, Walmer Castle, Deal
- Thursday, August 27, Edward Scissorhands, Walmer Castle, Deal
- Friday, August 21, Baz Luhrmann's Romeo & Juliet, St Augustine's Abbey, Canterbury

- Friday, August 28, This Is Spinal Tap, St Augustine's Abbey, Canterbury
- Sunday, August 16, Breakfast At Tiffany's, Cobham Hall, Cobham
- Sunday, August 23, Some Like It Hot, Nurstead Court, Meopham

Kent on Sunday readers can benefit from an exclusive buy one get one free offer at [www.thescreenonthegreen.com/kos](http://www.thescreenonthegreen.com/kos) when you enter the promotional code KOS. Subject to availability.

# It's such a perfect day (to relax or do the chores)

RELAXING is the best way to spend a Sunday morning in Kent, according to a new study, but it could be pepped up a little by having more sex.

Gold Top milk commissioned YouGov to carry out an extensive

By **CHRIS MURPHY**  
[editorial@kosmedia.co.uk](mailto:editorial@kosmedia.co.uk)

survey into what people in Kent and the rest of the county get up to during their Sundays.

After all that laying around, the next thing on most people's minds in Kent is doing the chores.

In Kent and the south of England, we still regard Sunday as a special day of the week.

Some 58 per cent of us enjoy a leisurely Sunday morning, spent reading the papers like Kent on Sunday, or watching TV, with 31 per cent enjoying breakfast with the family and 30 per cent indulging in a lie in.

The big downside to the day of rest for 48 per cent of Kent residents is doing the chores.

Amazingly, it appears Kent is recession-proof with 71 per cent saying it has made no difference to their Sundays. And a quarter claim their Sunday is simply perfect already.

When the Sunday Trading Act was introduced 15 years ago on August 28, there were those who thought it would decimate family life, but this report finds that simply never happened.

Just 19 per cent bother going to the shops, but 25 per cent said they enjoy devoting Sunday mornings to spending time with their family.

Peter Lynas, spokesman for Keep Sunday Special, said: "The fact that only 19 per cent of people go to the shops on a Sunday morning matches our own findings that there is little desire for increased Sunday opening."

"People enjoy their leisurely Sunday morning and don't want to leave the kids and head to work. They would rather enjoy a great breakfast together as a family."

But we still want the shops open, the report found, as we like the convenience should we need them.

A mere 15 per cent wanted to go back to the old days when they were all shut.

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## What we do on Sunday morning

Activity	Kent %	UK average %
Relaxing	58	55
Household chores	48	42
Breakfast with the family	31	29
Catching up on sleep	30	32
Communicating (phoning/emailing friends/family)	20	23
Shopping	19	18
Having sex	17	14
Exercising	11	12
Working	11	9
Attend place of worship	10	9
Other hobbies	6	9



# Slump, what slump? Kent pair top the league for towns with rising house prices

SALTASH in Cornwall may well be the best place in the UK to live according to a new national survey, but two towns in Kent are enjoying the fastest rising house prices.

Saltash has been revealed as England's top post-code with a low crime rate, stable house prices and a school in the country's top 20 league table.

But Sittingbourne and Folkestone, along with Brentwood in Essex, are seeing the biggest rise in

By **CHRIS MURPHY**

house prices according to the huge survey into post-codes by website MSN Local.

Alastair Bruce, senior content manager for the site, said: "Criteria for best places to live is hugely subjective, however most people are concerned with similar factors such as good schools, crime and house prices."

No Kent school appeared in England's top 20, the site said.

Steve Payne, manager of the Sittingbourne office

of Ward & Partners estate agents, said: "We do seem to be doing well. I would not say prices are starting to rise in the town, but they are hardening up."

"Perhaps everywhere else in the UK is still finding it really hard."

"For example, a few months ago if we put a house up for £150,000, we would have expected an offer of £130,000 to be accepted. But now, just a few months later, we expect to get around the £140,000 mark, so it seems people are willing and able to spend a little more."

"It's great news we have made this chart."

CHART-TOPPER: Folkestone



## Quartet plead guilty to attack

FOUR men have admitted violence offences following an incident outside a town centre nightclub.

Adebola Alimi, 18, Nicholas Garcia, 24, Earl Williams, 25, Dare Adun, 20, and Ryan Findlay, 17, appeared at Maidstone Crown Court on Thursday to enter their pleas for charges relating to the attack in April.

Garcia and Williams, both from Hackney, east London, pleaded guilty to wounding with intent. Alimi, also from Hackney, and Adun, of no fixed address, pleaded guilty to violent disorder.

Findlay, from Holloway, pleaded not guilty to the charges and will appear at Canterbury Crown Court on Friday where he will stand trial. The other four will be sentenced at a later date.

All five men were originally charged with three counts of attempted murder, wounding with intent and violent disorder.

The attack, outside the Lockmeadow Complex, in Maidstone, in the early hours of April 24, resulted in the victims being treated for injuries at Maidstone Hospital.

## Artist to record gallery progress

AS THE Turner Contemporary gallery continues to take shape in Margate, one artist will be keeping a close eye on the work.

Ramsgate artist Grace Ayson will be capturing the construction efforts in charcoal drawings especially commissioned to document the building.

Grace Ayson studied fine art at the Kent Institute of Art and Design and her work is currently part of the Turner Contemporary Open exhibition which showcases work from artists all over the county.

She will begin her project in September.

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800mm Was £445 Now <b>£329</b>	1200mm Was £513 Now <b>£380</b>		1100mm Was £411 Now <b>£299</b>
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## Elderly targeted by bogus caller

A CONMAN told an elderly couple their water supply might be contaminated, *writes Jenna Pudelek.*

The fraudster tricked his way into the home in Tunbridge Wells by saying he needed to take a sample of the water, as other people in the area had problems with the supply.

While the man was in the kitchen with the couple, another man appeared.

The men left after the residents became suspicious and started questioning them about who they were and what they were doing.

Nothing was taken during the incident on August 7 at 6pm, but after the men left the couple realised rooms in the house had been searched.

A similar excuse was used by a man who talked his way into the home of an elderly woman in Snodland, at noon, the previous day.

On that occasion only one man was seen, but it is believed a second person may have come in the house and taken money while the woman was distracted by the caller.

Det Sgt Dave Liffen said: "It's good people are becoming suspicious of callers and starting to ask them questions, but we want this to happen before they get into someone's house."

"If you live near an elderly or vulnerable person please keep an eye out for callers on their behalf, and if you think they would benefit from additional security advice please contact your neighbourhood officer."

By **CHRIS MURPHY**

IT'S not just humans who need an energy boost every now and again – it seems bees crave a quick sugar rush too, and gardeners are being asked to do their bit to help.

The RSPB has issued Kent residents with some advice to give the dwindling bee population a step up by leaving out special tasty sugar drinks for them.

It said bees are hardworking, hence the busy as a bee expression – but they do get worn out.

The charity said bees are incredibly important pollinators and now is their busiest time of year.

They will sometimes become exhausted and lie on the ground, seemingly dead, as they rest a while.

To give bees an energy boost, the RSPB said gardeners should leave a sweet drink made from sugar and water in among flowers. To make the drink, mix two tablespoons of white, granulated sugar with one tablespoon of water in a container the size of an eggcup.

### Welcome treat

The wildlife charity does warn to avoid using too much sugar and it also recommends small containers so birds don't dive in for a sugary bath.

But don't be tempted to use honey as an alternative – it will do them harm, the charity said.

Hester Phillips, of RSPB South East, said: "Busy as a bee is a true saying – bees are working to keep the planet's food chains intact and they really do deserve our help."

"We've been getting more calls about bees than ever this year as most people have read that they are in trouble."

"Many people keep seeing bees lying on the ground and assume they are dead, but chances are they are having a rest."

"Much like us, a sugary drink could boost their energy levels and a simple sugar and water combination will be a welcome treat."

"Just make sure you only leave out the

# Giving bees a real buzz with sweet gesture

ALWAYS ON THE GO:

Bees are among the most hardworking insects on the planet



suggested small amounts and use a small cup so that birds can't get in it."

Wildflowers and crops depend on the creatures, but many species of bee are now under threat.

Habitat loss has already led to the extinction of three species, and several more are severely threatened, including the wild honey bee, the short-haired bumblebee and the large, noisy, garden honey bee.

Hay meadows and clover leys are now seldom seen in today's farmland, leaving little for bumblebees to feed on, so both

farmers and conservationists need to do what they can to help.

Gardeners can also make a big difference by planting flowering plants that provide vital nectar and pollen for bees and other insects. Knapweeds, sunflowers and buddleia are among those plants that are valuable to wildlife.

The RSPB said: "Solitary bees also like to burrow into dry sunny banks or warm patches of bare earth in a lawn or border, even among a pile of stones. Try to retain such features in your garden."

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# WIN A TASTE OF ITALY

WITH



THE debate over the nation's favourite food continues – is it Chinese, Indian, or maybe Italian? One thing is certain, the British love affair with ethnic food continues to grow.

More and more Brits are trying Italian dishes when dining out and are also experimenting in their kitchens, and one dish that's definitely increasing in popularity is risotto.

So why have we taken so long to realise how delicious it is?

And there's a plus, risotto is incredibly versatile – it's a fantastic way of enjoying the best of our own seasonal produce or everyday leftovers and store cupboard basics.

Risottos are a staple dish of the Italian weekly repertoire and each region in Italy has its own speciality.

The regional preferences in Italy inspired Riso Gallo (Italy's leading risotto rice producer) to conduct a survey to see which risotto tickled the British palate – and the results are in. The top five risottos are: 1) Asparagus, 2) mushroom, 3) seafood, 4) chicken, 5) primavera (vegetables).

On the back of this, Riso Gallo is encouraging foodies to find out their own favourite risotto flavour and is offering eight readers the opportunity to win a luxury hamper of its range of products to cook with.

Each hamper will include a Riso Gallo apron, risotto timer and other Riso Gallo goodies including a pack of Risotto Pronto (available in a variety of flavours).

To enter, simply answer the question below and send your entry on a postcard along with your email address (if applicable), name, address, and daytime telephone number to Riso Gallo Hamper Competition, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent, TN25 6SR. The closing date is August 28.

**Question:** Which risotto came out on top in a recent survey carried out by Riso Gallo on the British public?

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## Mystery over how man was injured

A MAN was found lying in an unlit road at night suffering from serious head injuries.

Police say they do not know whether the 26-year-old had been hit by a car or had fallen and banged his head.

The man was taken to the QEQM Hospital at Margate and then transferred to King's Hospital in London where he is in a serious condition. He was discovered in Calcott Hill, Sturry, on Saturday, August 8.

Officers were called after drivers found the Canterbury man lying in the dark road at 10.40pm.

Det Sgt Elly Heard said: "Friends have told us that he spent the early part of the evening in Herne Bay before catching a bus home to Canterbury with them."

"As the bus reached the Punch Tavern at 10.30pm it appears the man got off to go to the toilet. From then it is unclear what has happened – he may have been clipped by a passing car and knocked over."

## Len swinging into action for Saggers

**STRICTLY** Come Dancing judge Len Goodman will be the starring player at the Martin Saggers Benefit Golf Day at Redlibbets Golf Club, at Ash near Sevenoaks.

Also taking part in the event on Thursday, August 20, is the 2005 Ashes-winning wicket-keeper Geraint Jones and Kent players Justin Kemp and Darren Stevens.

Saggers joined Kent in 1998, and is currently fundraising during his benefit year.

There are only seven team places left for the day at £250 for four people (£65 per head) including a barbecue in the evening.

Kent and England fast bowler Saggers, is also supporting WOW (Well-being for Women), the PCA Benevolent Fund, and the Chance to Shine Campaign in his benefit year.

Teams can be booked by calling Laura Collins on 01892 750131 or email to enquiries@saggersbenefit2009.co.uk.

## Dog owners face penalty for foul up

DOG owners who fail to pick up after their pets may now face £80 fines from Medway's PCSOs.

The move to allow the community support officers to issue the fixed penalty notices comes in response to complaints from residents.

Medway Community Safety Partnership manager Neil Howlett said: "Two issues that Medway residents tell us upsets them the most is littering and dog fouling."

"The council taxpayer ultimately picks up the cost of this being cleared away."

Inspector Vaughan Lukey, from Medway Police Station, added: "This is an excellent example of Kent Police in Medway working with Medway Council to ensure local concerns are addressed effectively."

"We are committed to responding to community needs."

The £80 fine is reduced to £60 if it is paid within 10 days.

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By **STEVE KNIGHT**

steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

A FEMALE war veteran who signed up to avenge the deaths of her husband and brother has died at the age of 96.

Kathleen Fortescue Russell, who grew up in Kent, served in the Women's Auxiliary Air Force (WAAF) for four years and played an important role as a Bomber Command officer.

Her death acts as a reminder that it was not only British men who led the Allies to victory over Hitler and the Nazis, but women too.

Dr Jon Russell said his late mother – known to friends and family as Kay – felt duty-bound to join the war effort after her first husband Eric Fortescue and brother John Sherman were both killed in action.

He said: "Kay carried a wound that would never heal. She joined the Air Force out of anger and a sense of duty to continue in the absence of her loved ones.

"She would say to me on numerous occasions that 'Jerry could not get all of us'.

"Kay was a fighter and stood tall and strong to her final days.

### Pride

"She took particular pride over being able to take over a man's job such as assistant to Sir Arthur Harris at Bomber Command.

"She was never short of stories and never afraid to tell them, despite the emotions they could provoke.

"She also had a sign outside her house that read 'war is not the answer', and people respected her for that."

Born in London on October 15, 1912, Kathleen Sherman was brought up by her mother Edith at a small boarding house in Herne Bay, and she later won a scholarship to attend the exclusive Faversham Girls' School.

She met her first husband Eric while working at Westminster Bank in London, but was married for just six months before he was killed by a seamine during an RAF air-sea rescue mission shortly after the onset of war.

Upon joining the WAAF in 1941, Kay first worked as assistant station adjutant at Biggin Hill airfield, Bromley, before being promoted to the role of staff officer at Bomber Command.

She met her second husband Roger Russell – a member of the US Air Force – towards the end of the war, and the couple married in 1945.



**READY TO SERVE:** Kathleen Fortescue Russell just after joining the RAF, before her selection as an officer; right, Kay campaigning for Obama and Biden; and below, a picture believed to show a briefing being given by Wing Commander Evan-Evans RAF with King George VI in the far left in Air Commodore uniform. Kathleen's brother (Sgt John Sherman) is also shown, in the back row, third from the right

# 'Kay was a fighter until her final days'

## Female Bomber Command officer remembered

Kay spent the majority of her life supporting Roger's career as a neuroscientist and vice-chancellor of three American universities before his death in 1999, after which time she moved to Atlanta, Georgia.

Andrew Chapman – son of Kay's cousin and dear friend Kitty – said she would be greatly missed by all who knew her.

He said: "Whenever I met Kay the tempo of the day was lifted for the better. She was always the most stimulating company in the best possible way.

"She had a very eventful life – some both massively and regrettably forced on her. A lesser person could have crumbled, but not Kay who overcame the odds and had a well-spent life.

"So from a difficult start – including being brought up in the early days in a boarding house in Herne Bay when she had to sleep in the garden when a bed was needed for a paying guest – much was achieved and overcome."



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# Landlord to pay almost £10,000 for breach of health and safety

A PROPERTY owner has been fined £9,030, plus costs, after breaching so many health and safety regulations he left magistrates "horrified".

Dartford Magistrates Court gave Paramjit Singh Bansal, 51, almost the maximum punishment the law allows after broken fire doors, a broken fire alarm and an unsafe electrical system were found in his rented property in The Grove, Gravesend.

Bansal, who rented out rooms to several families with children, pleaded guilty to two breaches under the Management of Houses in Multiple Occupation Regulations 2006.

## Shut down

Officers from Gravesham Borough Council initially visited the property in The Grove in August last year and, following their findings, served a Prohibition Order and shut down the property.

Magistrates said they considered this case to be "at the very high end of the scale" and gave Bansal a £4,515 fine for each offence and ordered him to pay Gravesham Borough Council's court costs of £575.

Cabinet member for housing Cllr Antony Pritchard said: "Unsafe homes will not be tolerated. Landlords have a legal and moral obligation to ensure their tenants' safety in their property.

"Gravesham Borough Council is working closely with landlords in the private rented sector to encourage a high level of health and safety standards."



THIS photo is of the boat house in the grounds of Scotney Castle, Lamberhurst, was taken by Roy Vinnicombe of Maidstone.

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# Family mourn loss of their 'big friendly giant' killed in crash

THE devastated family of a father-of-one who died after crashing his car in Selling has paid tribute to their "big friendly giant", writes **Simon Robinson**.

Mark Phillips' parents, Margaret and Brian, and three sisters Wendy, Lisa and Kelly said the 37-year-old was the life and soul of the party.

In a statement released through Mid Kent Police, the family said: "He was very

sociable and had so many friends. He made everyone laugh so there was no way you could be miserable around him. He would do anything for anyone and we will really miss our lovable big friendly giant."

## Goodbyes

Mr Phillips, from Sittingbourne, died after his grey Ford Escort came off the road at 3am on Sunday, August 2.

An inquest into his death was opened and adjourned at Ashford Magistrates Court on Friday, August 7.

Mr Phillips leaves behind son Marc, 13, and 11 nieces and nephews.

His funeral will be held at Robin Hood Lane crematorium, Chatham, on Tuesday, August 25, from 1.20pm.

The family said: "We want everyone who knew Mark to say their goodbyes at his funeral, but we don't want anyone to wear black. We want it to be a celebration of his life and give him a really good send off."

Donations to the family can be made via Doves Funerals, 1 Knightrider Street, Maidstone ME15 6LP.



**FUN-LOVING GUY:** Mark Phillips who died aged 37

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## BACK TO SCHOOL SWAPSIES

Going back to school with new stationery seems to be compulsory for kids – not least because most love stationery and want to stand out from the crowd. The list can seem endless – pencil case, pens, highlighters, stapler, calculator, ruler, notebooks, paper, files and so on. And then there's different sizes, styles and colours to choose.

But have you ever wondered – when you're buying new pens and pencils case for your children – what happens to all those perfectly good unwanted ones?

For most families they simply end up in a cupboard or drawer, taking up valuable space, or even worse they're thrown away.

But now Staples has come up with a solution. It has joined forces with the charity READ International to launch *Back to School Swapsies*, major initiative that aims to ship the UK's unwanted pencil cases and pens – as long as they are in working order – to schoolchildren in Tanzania and Uganda.

All you have to do is drop the pens and pencil cases off at your local Staples store and Staples will give you a £1 voucher to spend on anything from a scientific calculator to that all important maths set. READ International will then collect, sort and ship the stationery to Africa.

This latest initiative builds on the work of the charity, which has a 500-strong student volunteer network, responsible for redistributing disused text books from the UK to Africa. Since its launch in 2003 it has shipped nearly half a million books.

READ Director Rob Wilson said: "This is a fantastic idea, which we hope will capture the imagination of young people and get them thinking about recycling, their own environment and helping others. I have seen first hand the huge demand for basic stationery like pens and pencils in East African schools and know that hundreds of thousands of school children in Tanzania and Uganda will benefit from this initiative."

Staples has also agreed to donate new pens and pencil cases to the charity. They will be shipped to Africa later this year, together with the latest batch of text books. Schoolchildren in Tanzania and Uganda follow a syllabus almost identical to the UK, but as one of the poorest regions in the world, teachers often lack the resources needed to teach.

**STAPLES**

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READ International Director Rob Wilson discovers for himself how the charity's work is helping children in Tanzania.



# Putting politics before

By **JAMIE MCGINNES**

editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

IT IS one of the defining images of the 20th century.

The picture beamed back from the Moon of astronaut Buzz Aldrin saluting the American flag filled hundreds of millions of people around the world with awe.

Yet it could have been very different if Nasa had had its way, according to former BBC Aerospace Correspondent Reginald Turnill.

The world's oldest working space correspondent, now 94, recalled how Nasa had actually wanted a United Nations flag to be planted on the lunar surface, not the Stars and Stripes.

When America's Congress found out about Nasa's plan, just before the Apollo 11 launch, they quickly jettisoned it.

"Looking back 40 years, it's clear now that Apollo 11 marked the end of Nasa's golden years," recalled Mr Turnill, from his home in Sandgate, near Folkestone.

"The world's best space brains were recruited, from America, Germany and Britain – Australia and Canada, too – and were able to work together, with unlimited funds and no nationalistic inhibitions, to devise a way to send men to the Moon and back. It was a unique example of what can be achieved in such conditions.

"It ended just before Apollo 11 was launched – when the politicians put a stop to it once and for all.

"That was when Congress learned that internationally-minded Nasa wanted to erect



**LOOKING BACK:** Former BBC Aerospace Correspondent Reginald Turnill, astronaut Neil Armstrong, and the iconic images of Buzz Aldrin

a United Nations flag on the moon. They decreed that on that, and every subsequent landing, the Stars and Stripes must be flown to demonstrate to the world that the landing was entirely a US achievement."

Mr Turnill even remembers the moment when the American flag that would be placed on the Moon was bought. Whereas some reports have claimed the flag had been specially made, Mr Turnill recalled it as being much more of a last-minute consideration.

"I was at the Cape, awaiting the first launch, when a young engineer was rushed

out to buy a big Stars and Stripes, for which he paid \$5.50, and which was hurriedly inserted into the Lunar Module. From then on raising the flag, with the military-trained astronauts saluting it, took precedence over the scientific exploration of the lunar surface."

From 1958 to 1976, as the BBC's Aerospace Correspondent, Mr Turnill was involved in one of the most exciting periods in the development of mankind.

While covering the space race, he met American astronauts and Russian cosmonauts and reported to the world when Neil



Armstrong became the first man to set foot on the Moon on July 20, 1969.

Although he knew all of the astronauts on the Apollo 11 mission, Turnill, like many others has always been puzzled by the exact source of mission commander Armstrong's famous words, "That's one small step for [a] man, one giant leap for mankind".

He said that George Low, the astronauts' boss at Houston, fretted about the first words spoken by the first man on the Moon, predicting they would go down in history. He eventually approached Armstrong and asked him.

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# progress on the Moon



"I'd done broadcasts to that effect and the Sunday Times even ran a competition about who would be first."

"Now, the Press Kit and Flight Plan both showed Armstrong as the first to descend from the Lunar Module to the lunar surface. Why the change?"

"The public affairs people waved the matter aside. It wasn't important. It was really an engineering decision: the way the door of the Lunar Module opened inwards made it more practical for Armstrong to egress first."

But the real reasoning was because of a preference for Armstrong over Aldrin, Mr Turnill claimed: "Nasa chiefs of course had been less than honest about it. The top executives had met and decided that just like Lindberg, who'd been the first to make a solo flight across the Atlantic, the first man on the Moon would be an immortal."

"And they thought the calm, reticent Armstrong was more suitable than the rather abrasive Aldrin to carry the fame that would follow. They'd then told Deke Slayton, the Chief Astronaut, to find a technical reason for the change."

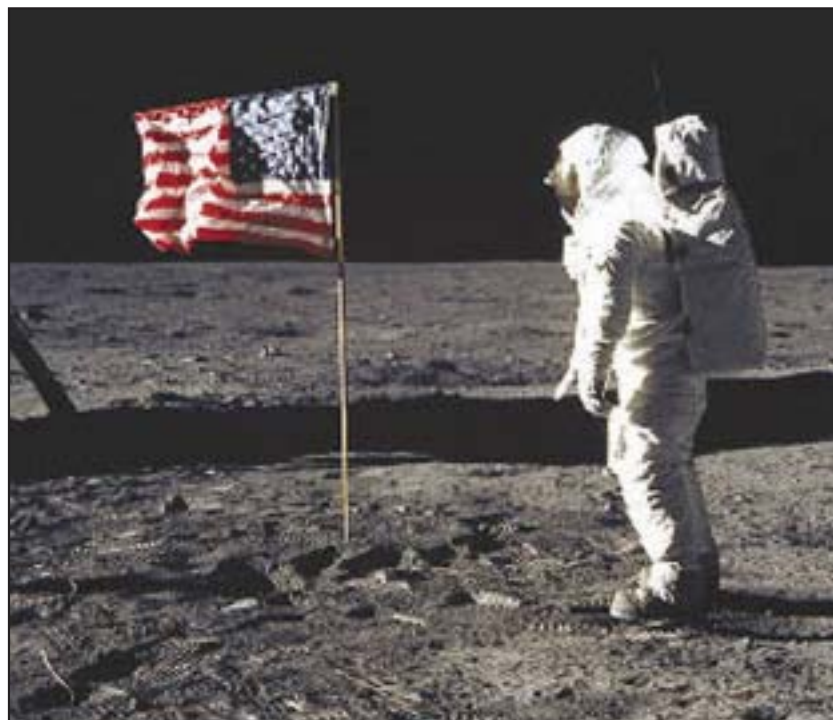
In spite of its huge eagerness to fulfil President John F Kennedy's 1961 goal of sending astronauts to the Moon before the end of the decade, Nasa also had a lot of concerns about the risk of the space travellers becoming ill during transit, or becoming infected by some sort of lunar bug.

Turnill said one of his most satisfying scoops before the landing came from chatting to Dr Charles Berry, the astronauts' personal physician.

"He mentioned that Nasa had invited President Nixon to have dinner with the astronauts the night before the launch. He'd pointed out that this would seriously prejudice his 'preventive medicine policy', aimed at ensuring the astronauts did not catch a cold during the mission, and making it certain that any infections they brought back came from the Moon and were not pre-flight infections."

"There was much alarm when I raised this with Nasa executives, who tossed it to and fro and issued a statement saying Dr Berry's view was only a recommendation. But in fact Dr Berry had made it impossible for the dinner to take place, and my story about the man who forbade the President from coming to dinner made headlines around the world."

In 1970, Mr Turnill was the first to break the news that Apollo 13 almost met with disaster while 200,000 miles away from Earth on its way to the Moon.



"At the end of a meeting one day, he said: 'Neil, have you thought what you'll say when you step on the Moon?' 'Yes, George' replied Armstrong, and departed without another word," said Mr Turnill.

"That resulted – perhaps because Armstrong complained, in a stinging rebuke for Low from Washington headquarters. Julian Scheer, the powerful head of public relations, scolded that it would be bad if it got out that they were coaching the astronauts in what to say. 'The truest emotion at the historic moment is what the explorer feels within himself,' he pontificated."

Mr Turnill, author of *The Moonlandings – An Eyewitness Account*, added: "There's some evidence that in conversation with Armstrong someone said a landing would be 'a giant leap'. But in the 60 hours closeted in that tiny spacecraft with two companions, Armstrong gave no hint what he would say."

In fact, it may never have been Armstrong who became the first man to step onto the Moon, but for the men at the top of Nasa, who felt he was a better role model than Buzz Aldrin, Mr Turnill revealed.

He said the bulky Press Kit and Flight Plan he picked up as he arrived at Cape Canaveral for the launch contained a big surprise.

"I'd had a top level briefing weeks before that Buzz Aldrin would be first to step on the Moon. Armstrong, as commander would follow the naval tradition of being last to leave 'the ship'."

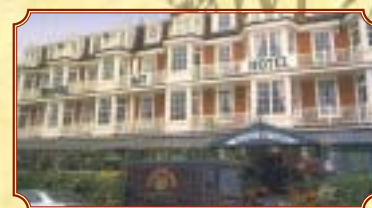
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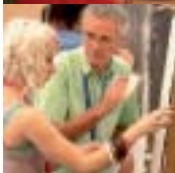
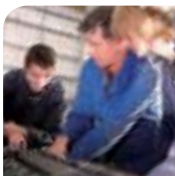
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**CHRIS BRITCHER**  
CAMPAIGN EDITOR  
chris.britcher@kosmedia.co.uk



## Branching out into juicy fruit

"KENT, sir - everybody knows Kent - apples, cherries, hops and women."

Apples and Kent have gone together since the days of Charles Dickens and the *Pickwick Papers*, and still today, the county is renowned for its high quality orchards.

The Garden of England's nickname as the 'apple capital' began with the founding of the first apple and cherry orchards at Teynham, during Henry VIII's reign.

This was followed with mass investment in orchards at the end of the 17th century, which led to the creation of fruit-growing patches in mid Kent and the Medway Valley.

Improved transport along the River Medway meant apples could easily be shipped to Rochester, before going on to London, where the prime consumers lived and worked.

By the end of the 19th century, Kent boasted thousands of acres of apple orchards.

Since then, the region has also aimed to provide a safe haven for the development and testing of new varieties.

None more so than at the 150-acre Brogdale Farm near Faversham, which has been home to the National Fruit Collection since the early 1950s.

This houses a total of 3,200 varieties from all over the world, 650 of which are British, and is one of the largest col-

## RACHEL McATHY bites into a capital crop with a trip to Brogdale Fruit Farm

lections of fruit varieties in the world. It also plays a scientific purpose by providing a genetic bank to help preserve varieties.

As well as the popular British ones, Kent also grows its very own native assortment of apples. This includes the Beauty of Kent, Maidstone Favourite and Faversham Creek.

One of the county's most popular native varieties is the simply named, Kent, a mix between the American Jonathan and the Cox's Orange Pippin.

Ted Hobday, chief guide at Brogdale, explained why Kent has a history of successful apple growing.

"The county has the right climate conditions for it," he said. "Apples need sun, rain, good soil and good drainage. We also have the cold winters for them to sleep through. Kent has it all."

But, although many of Kent's apples go on to be enjoyed just as they are, others can be transformed into refreshing juices or smooth ciders.

At Owl House Fruit Farm in Lamberhurst, they produce a range of apple juices from the products of their orchards, designed to ensure the just-picked flavour of the fruit is maintained.

After being collected, all their apples are washed and inspected and taken to the mill.

Here they are crushed and the pulp is drawn between two converging belts and passed through a series of rollers, gently squeezing the juice from the fruit.

Whether you prefer it as a crispy fruit or in its liquid refreshment form, Kent continues to provide some of the best spots to farm apples, focused on its two fruit-belts in mid Kent and the Low Weald.

And while there has been a significant drop in the acreage of orchards in past years, the county still remains England's premier apple-growing region.



## Kentish apple and cinnamon muffins

Makes 10/12

9oz (250g) plain flour, 3 tsp (15ml) baking powder, 1/2tsp salt, 1 1/2 tsp mixed spice (or mix cinnamon, nutmeg, ginger and cloves), 4oz (110g) white granulated sugar, 1 egg, 5 fl oz milk, 3 fl oz corn oil, 6oz (170g) apple peeled, cored and grated or chopped

In a bowl mix together all the dry ingredients, leaving a hole in the middle. Mix all the wet ingredients and apple together separately. Pour the wet mixture into the dry mixture and stir until just combined.

Spoon into muffin tins and sprinkle with Demerara sugar. Bake in an oven on 190-200C, or gas mark 5, for 20 to 25 minutes.

• Visit [www.kentdowns.org.uk](http://www.kentdowns.org.uk) for more cooking ideas.

## Raise a glass to cider

IT IS one of the biggest events in Kent's apple calendar and this year's Cider Festival lurks just around the corner.

Apple-fuelled events will kick off at Brogdale Farm on September 19.

With more than 98 cider apples and 20 perry pears in the National Fruit Collection, there promises to be an array of different tipples to taste and buy.

It should also be a great day out for all the family, with cooking demonstrations, tours of the National Fruit Collection, live music, mini railway, horse display and a hog roast.

For more information call 01795 536250 or visit [www.brogdalecollections.co.uk](http://www.brogdalecollections.co.uk).

## Recession blues defied

ENJOY the best of Kent produce in the heart of Canterbury, at a brand new deli and cafe.

Husband and wife team Adrian and Tanya used all their savings to set up The Cathedral Deli.

"Despite little support from the banks due to the economic climate, worries from families and friends and giving up secure careers, we soldiered on," Tanya said. "Within the first few days the response to our little Kentish deli and cafe has been amazing and defied all our critics."

"We have been full every lunchtime and the public has loved the quality of the Kent products we use in our sandwiches and home cooking."

Their menu includes Kentish rarebit, a twist on the classic Welsh dish, which uses Ashmore Cheese from Cheese Makers of Canterbury and Shepherd Neame Spitfire Ale.

Another treat is shepherd's pie made with organic lamb mince from Monkshill Farm in Faversham and a Monmouth blend used in their coffees.

The deli can be found at 17b Burgate and is open from Monday to Saturday.



# foodforkent.co.uk

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# KENT ON SUNDAY

## COMMENT

### Lesser of two evils

WITH conflicting reports and advice about giving antivirals to children it is no wonder that parents have been left confused and concerned.

A report in the British Medical Journal questioned the effectiveness of the drugs and two studies by the Health Protection Agency found more than half of children given Tamiflu experienced side effects such as nausea and nightmares. But it is important to note the BMJ study was based on seasonal flu and not swine flu. The HPA reports were carried out at the beginning of the pandemic and when Tamiflu was given to everyone who had been in contact with a confirmed case.

It is right to take notice of these studies and more research is clearly needed. However, at the moment we have to work with what we have. Cases of swine flu have dropped over the past weeks, but when the schools go back in September it is predicted to increase again.

Although in most cases swine flu is a mild illness and patients are better in a few days, it can be serious and complications can include pneumonia, severe asthma and even death. Now, of course, no-one wants their child to suffer from nausea or nightmares, but surely the complications associated with swine flu are far worse?

It is a choice for parents, but the fact that measles is now on the increase after nearly being eliminated due to now disproved reports that the MMR vaccine was linked to autism, shows how far scare-stories can go.

There are bound to be concerns and the temptation is to wait until there is some kind of definitive answer, but we are in the middle of a pandemic now. It may be better to risk a chance your child will react badly to Tamiflu rather than risk a severe reaction to swine flu.

## OPINION:

CONSERVATION is a very vexed issue.

Different groups start from different angles and each party wants conservation to work for their own specific interest.

Wouldn't it be better if all the different interests came together and worked for wildlife as a whole, thus benefiting each other's passion.

As the Birds and Countryside Show is based around birds let us look at three groups of bird lovers: the birdwatcher, the aviculturalist and the hunter.

One man who embodies all these groups was the late Sir Peter Scott. As an artist and broadcaster he travelled the world looking at birds and he became interested in captive breeding. Having set up the Wildfowl and Wetland Trust he became expert in breeding ducks, geese and swans and went on to save the Hawaiian nene goose from extinction.

Today the white-headed duck is threatened by inter-breeding with the introduced North American ruddy duck. As in the case of most ducks, they produce strong viable hybrids.

To preserve the white-headed duck population in Spain, here in Britain the ruddy duck and the hybrids are being culled. The rights and wrongs of the culling is another debate, but without it we could lose this smallest of stiff-tails. If everyone worked

## Singing the same song

### Paul Cumberland would like to see bird lovers unite for sake of species



together the birdwatcher could inform the shooter of the presence of ruddy duck or hybrids, thus working together for the conservation of the white-headed duck.

The ciril bunting is another British bird in trouble. There have been attempts by conservationists to breed ciril buntings in captivity. It failed because of the lack of captive breeding knowledge. Why were the avi-culturalists not consulted?

They have the knowledge and experience of breeding buntings in captivity and would probably have jumped at the chance to undertake the challenge.

Birdwatchers study the movement, numbers and breeding patterns of birds, but there are large areas of land that they do not have access to.

Gamekeepers and farmers cover great tracts of this land and have an intimate knowledge of the wildlife living on it, but are not encouraged to share this information.

I wonder how many rare birds are missed each year because those with the knowledge are

never informed about an odd bird in the area. From my own knowledge the love of birds runs deep in all three groups.

I believe that aviary culture can play a massive part in conservation. I recognize many people are against keeping birds in cages, but I sense this is changing, especially among organisations involved in conservation.

They are beginning to see the advantages of captive bred birds being used in reintroduction programmes, although there are still many voices against the pet trade in birds rather than for expanding the knowledge base of breeding birds in captivity.

It seems to me there is an opportunity, with 192 birds on the endangered list, for professionally paid bird breeders to restore these numbers.

The knowledge and skills are out there.

I have a system that could be put in place, not just for birds but all livestock, to enable anyone to keep anything over time subject to their level of expertise.

The control of imports of birds would be made easier, as would

the prosecution of anyone not abiding by the rules.

I accept and understand that some of the hunters, bird keepers and birdwatchers would not want to be associated with the other groups, but they should not be able to stop the rest from working together.

In September I'm holding a Birds and Countryside Show in Kent. This show brings together those that enjoy birds in the many ways that a bird can touch our lives.

Have a family day out to see and find out about how birds and their behaviour can enhance your life.

We look forward to sharing with you the delights of the Birds and Countryside Show at the Friars, Aylesford, near Maidstone, on September 12-13.

We're holding this show because I feel that if everyone with an interest in birds worked together conservation would benefit and I hope this show will help to break down those barriers.

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## Pay the price in Brazil

I was concerned by your article last Sunday headed "Brazilian jail hell of Brit 'fraudsters'."

These two people were only treated the same way as Brazilian suspected fraudsters would have been.

Everyone knows that conditions in Third World countries are lower than in Britain, so what do they expect? OK, they have not been convicted yet, but they could be.

I also admit, that as Brazil is in the upper echelons of the underdeveloped countries it could spend more on its prisons. However, supposing it had been the other way round, and two foreigners detained in Britain were suspected of fraud, how would the British feel if they demanded special treatment in prison?

Most UK people would expect them to be treated just the same as British suspects.

*Marc Hurstfield, Northfleet*

## Focus on school CCTV

Referring to your front page of Kent on Sunday newspaper, I am appalled at the decision to stop the CCTV cameras in a classroom of Gravesend Grammar School.

Why not I say! What are they afraid of? If I had my way all schools would have them but unfortunately they are too expensive.

There is too much pandering to human rights and people's privacy, it was OK in the beginning but now it has become completely out of control in this country, no other country in Europe has taken it to the extreme like we have, we are the laughing stock of the world.

These teachers need to know what they are letting themselves in for and what better way than to see everyday life in a classroom to know what to expect and how to cope with daily routine. What is the problem?

There was no need for this in the past as we had a very important factor in all schools, it was called discipline, something most chil-

## Shopping for a real solution

Looking at last week's feature on the problem of Margate's numerous empty shops it was obvious that none of the pundits contributing had any ideas that would offer a solution in the real world.

They seemed unable to face up to the simple fact that traditional shopping centres are never going to recover to their old levels.

Now that consumers have got used to convenient shopping in properly designed out-of-town centres there will be no going back to the old way. The current economic slump has merely accelerated a continuing process.

In any case, there are far too many shops in the UK as a whole, in my view. The sooner the landowners and councils that have been creaming money off of town-centre shopping realise that the party is over for them, the better.

It's time for some radical surgery to reduce the straggling parades of tat that mar so many of our towns. Condensed

shopping areas that contain only successful businesses might have some chance of viability. Unfortunately the local political set-up in the UK is not set up to take this sort of action.

In any case, the area that symbolises Margate for most visitors is the front. I happened to be down there the other day (for the first time since the 1970s). It has an excellent beach of course and I was surprised that there are some really handsome Georgian and Victorian terraces fronting it, and in good condition too.

However, most of the stretch fronting on Marine Terrace and Marine Drive is an absolute disgrace.

Strangely enough, it's the newer developments at the western end that are the grimmest. It's a shame that some of the £15 million being squandered on the Turner art gallery couldn't have been spent on replacing this eyesore with something that would attract rather than repel.

*John Ware, Rainham*

Grammar School, if it will make it better or easier, go for it.

*Carole Russell, Ramsgate*

## Dreaming of ideas

The following is a suggestion about Dreamland that hopefully would prevent any future mishap on the Scenic Railway affect-

ing the workshop and rolling stock.

The idea that I should like to put forward would be to supplement the existing workshop with a remote workshop (perhaps situated in the Dreamland main building), with a siding linking it to the present workshop site; as this siding would cross areas of the park where visitors would be walking, the track would either be laid in the style of a level crossing or be laid in the slightly different format of a tramway.

The scenic railway rolling stock would then be shunted to and from the remote depot by either a small four-wheel battery loco (eg, a Greenbat) or a small four-wheel petrol or diesel loco (eg, a Simplex). Any other traditional rollercoasters imported into a future Dreamland should be made to run on the same track gauge and be connected to the central workshop in the same way.

It should not be possible to argue that this would detract from the historic nature of the Scenic Railway as the existing workshop would remain for storage and some light maintenance, but the track at the exit would split two ways; one direction would lead as at present out on to the rollercoaster circuit, while the other direction would lead on to the trackwork leading to the central workshops.

This would have two advantages: not only would workshops and rolling stock be more likely to be kept safe in the event of a mishap on the rollercoaster structure, but also the locomotive shunting of rolling stock to and from a central workshop would cause traditional rollercoasters to be taken more seriously by the railway enthusiast movement, including bodies such as the Narrow Gauge Railway Society, as well as the various monthly magazines.

This, in turn, would open up more support for the project for the heritage amusement park for Dreamland.

I hope these comments will be considered helpful.

*John Humphrey, Sevenoaks*

**Letters continued on page 34**

### YOUR LETTERS

KOS Media welcomes your comments and letters for publication. Please send correspondence to: Letters to the Editor, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR. Alternatively fax them to: 01303 817002, or email them to [editorial@kosmedia.co.uk](mailto:editorial@kosmedia.co.uk). Please include your name and address, although these will be withheld in exceptional circumstances. Please also include a daytime telephone number for verification (this will not be published). We reserve the right to edit letters.

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### BIRTHS

#### BLANCHARD

Piers and Clare of Littlebourne are delighted to announce the birth of their second daughter, Madelaine Jamie Blanchard, born at home on 13th July 2009. A new sister Hannah.

#### CONNOLLY

Rob and Becky celebrate the birth of their daughter Abbie Kathleen Patricia Connolly on 28th July 2009, weighing 9lb 2oz.

#### JAMES

Sydney Claire born on the 17th July 2009 weighing 7lb 10oz. Daughter of Paul and Ellen, sister to Ben, Charley, Liam and Harry. A sweetie baby for The Sweetie Lady.

#### LINK

Suzannah and Richard Link celebrate the birth of their daughter Poppy Annabel Link on 30th July 2009.

#### MARTIN

Rachel and Danny are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter Nancy Mai Martin on 2nd August 2009, weighing 9lb 13oz. Sister to Gracie and Alfie.

#### MONTANER

Michael and Samantha are pleased to announce that they now have two children. Keira Rhiannon born on 8th September 2007 and Lauren Amy born on 9th July 2009. They are both very special girls.

#### RYAN

Robert and Tracy Ryan celebrate the birth of their son Mitchell Terry Ryan on 27th July 2009 weighing 5lb 11oz.

on the 3rd August 2009. Loving mother of Pat and Carrie. To live in the hearts of those left behind, forever.

#### WILLIAMS

Reg (Reginald James) Williams of J J Williams (Gaskets) Ltd, Whitstable, passed away peacefully on 6th August 2009 aged 92 years. Much loved by family and friends and very sadly missed. The funeral will take place on 19th August at 4pm at Barham crematorium. Family flowers only but if desired donations to the League of Friends at Queen Victoria Hospital, Herne Bay c/o A Welch and Sons Ltd, Herne Bay.

### DEATHS

#### CROUCHER

Phyllis Croucher, passed away peacefully on 3rd August 2009 at High Meadow Nursing Home, Canterbury. Re-united with Dad. Family flowers only. All enquiries Hogben and Partis, 37 Stone Street, Faversham, Kent 01795 533119.

#### GAGE

Noreen Gage of Cheriton passed away peacefully

Letters continued from page 33

## Think of the children

To bring up children to be good (Spare the rod..., Letters, August 9) it is only necessary for parents to behave well, set a good example and treat their children with kindness, consideration and respect.

Then the children will almost invariably grow up to respect their parents, respect themselves and respect others. In such circumstances punishment is not necessary, let alone smacking.

Children may not always be docile and obedient – but who wants to bring up doormats?

Of course, it is sometimes difficult, with all the pressures and distractions of the modern world, for parents, who may themselves have been badly treated as children, to behave well. But we must do our best, for the sake of our children, and our children's children.

Michael Reeves, Gravesend

## Anti-camera whiners

Brian McDowell and Phil Granger's recent letters make me laugh. Mr Granger's states that six per cent of all 'accidents' are from speeding, let's start by getting the terminology correct, there is no such thing as an accident when you are behind the wheel.

It is a crash. Accidents by their very nature are unavoidable.

Most car crashes occur because of an avoidable action by a human being.

The actual percentage of the cause of crashes is far higher than six per cent; in fact most crashes can be attributed to inappropriate use of speed combined with the lack of ability and attention of the driver to road and weather conditions. All of these anti-camera whiners you so frequently publish are not living in the real world. They want cameras scrapped because to quote 'they are money-making tax generators' yet in their next breath say how councils are getting rid of them as though it is a justification of their argument.

One council, Swindon Council, is running a trial without them. The truth is the Mr McDowells and Mr Grangers of this world wish to flout the law and drive as they wish regardless of the safety of others or themselves.

I saw the aftermath of a fatal crash on Saturday night in Kent on a road with no cameras. The weather was fine and there was no other car involved. The car in question had rolled numerous times and the occupant blatantly lost control at speed. There was no other factor.

I had the misfortune to follow the ambulance for quite some time as it left the crash scene. There were no lights, there was no rush for the ambulance crew and there was no need for a paramedic to travel in the back of the ambulance because the poor soul who overestimated his or her driving ability on a sunny, summer evening was dead.

It would be interesting to know how many times the Mr McDowells and Mr Grangers of this world have been caught speeding by cameras. Is their true beef only that they are being hurt financially because of their driving habits?

Graham Minty, by email

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# MONEY MATTERS



## Recession: Things are looking up

Inside your pull-out supplement

- Signs the recession is beginning to slow
- Why credit cards are an economic headache
- Have you been mis-sold a PPI policy?
- Research reveals shocking rise in fraud
- What one council is doing to help business
- Corporate retail property – the low-down
- Cashing in on your old gold
- A good time to buy a new car
- Recession-busting motoring
- Scrappage scheme goes full throttle
- Road tax: the best ways to save

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## what's inside

### Page 4-5

With many of us suffering from reduced incomes and unemployment on the increase, we look at the new fear that credit-card debts could trigger more economic suffering

### Page 6-7

With all the confusion around Payment Protection Insurance (PPI) in recent months, we help you educate yourself on what it is, whether you need it, and how to ensure that you are not being mis-sold to

### Page 8

Money fraud is at its highest level in decades. We discover how the recession has led to the financial crime rate almost doubling in a year in the South East

### Page 10-11

Find out what one council is doing to help businesses with a series of counter-recessionary measures, including a scheme to support graduates and a programme of business start-up grants

### Page 12

David Garrard, associate director and retail negotiator working out of the Maidstone office of Christie + Co reveals why this

sector is less susceptible than businesses in other areas of the economy as the down-turn does its worst

### Pages 14-15

When you see full-page adverts claim the price of gold has soared 30 per cent in the past six months alone, it isn't only those facing big debts or mortgage arrears who are tempted to turn old heirlooms and unwanted gifts into cash. Take a look at the returns...

### Page 16

With savings accounts earning so little, you might make more by saving a huge wedge when you drive away a new car

thanks to big discounts at the moment

### Page 17

Downsizing to a more fuel and tax efficient car is just one way you can save money. Steve Loader gives more tips on cheaper motoring

### Page 18

The Government's £2,000-a-go Scrappage incentive is purring like a sports car with talk of a top-up donation, so get your order in now if you fancy swapping your banger

### Page 19

Don't rush to change your car for one with less tax. There are other things to consider first...

## Essential guide to where you can save

■ Lexterten Furniture in Westgate on Sea is offering £100 off elevating TV cabinets

■ Oliver Carpets Carpets in Ramsgate, Herne Bay and Cliftonville is offering 10 per cent off when you spend more than £600

■ Maidstone Kia in Maidstone is offering 10 per cent off all accessories

■ Village Hotel in Maidstone is offering dine in the Verve Grill and upgrade a 6oz fillet steak to an 8oz or a 10oz sirloin for the same price

■ JC Farley furniture store in Ramsgate is offering 10 per cent off all lift and rise chairs, and motion beds

■ KOS is offering a porous seepage hose, saving you time and money and using up to 70 per cent less water. From only £19.99, save £35 on RRP

■ Village Hotel in Maidstone is offering a free tomato and mozzarella flatbread when you buy a bottle of rose wine in the Victory pub

■ Addictive Bikes in Ramsgate is offering five per cent off all bikes

■ Chart Hills Golf Club in Biddenden is offering 10 per cent off all food and beverages

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# Signs of economic life spotted

UNEMPLOYMENT is on the rise, but there are also a few signs that the economic situation may be on the turn – or at least it may not be getting worse at quite the same rate.

In this issue of Money Matters we hear from one expert on the retail sector who says many businesses are holding their own, and why the commercial property sector is still attracting plenty of buyers.

That's not to say that individuals and businesses aren't in need of some help, and in the coming pages there are details of

schemes offering assistance, and plenty of good advice to help you keep on top of your own financial affairs.

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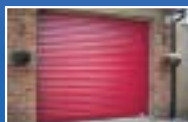
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# Card debts set to cause even more financial headaches

By JEREMY GATES

WITH unemployment expected to top four million and many households already suffering from reduced income, there are fears that massive credit-card debts could trigger more economic turmoil.

Britain, where consumer debt in proportion to income has climbed above 170 per cent, is seen as more vulnerable to such a crisis than European countries and the United States, where the International Monetary Fund fears 14 per cent of consumer debt will turn sour.

The IMF believes consumer debt losses in Europe could hit £1.5bn – much of it in Britain.

A lot of this debt, such as sub-prime mortgages, was securitised – passed on to new

holders – and the Financial Times warned that the impact could extend beyond banks, possibly hitting insurance companies and pension funds.

Our plastic-fuelled spending spree is unravelling fast. Outstanding card debt tops £64 billion, but with average interest rates at 18 per cent – or 36 times current Bank base rate – that's a big strain on the 40 per cent of card-holders who pay interest on outstanding balances.

Andrew Hagger at Moneynet.co.uk believes that card companies may have kept their rates high in defence against the looming problems.

He said: "If the debt situation worsens, rates could top 18 per cent. I see big write-offs coming, as an increasing trend."

Over two years, the noose has slowly drawn tighter on those who have overspent. The old trick – keep switching debt to new cards with 0 per cent balance transfers – is harder to pull off as providers tighten terms.

Capital One, a leading provider, has withdrawn 0 per cent balance transfers altogether. Barclaycard's 0 per cent offer on balance



**MOUNTING DEBT:** If people's debt situation worsens, rates could top 18 per cent



transfers is down from 14 months to 12 and other providers – including Royal Bank of Scotland and its brands, and HSBC – restrict balance transfers to existing customers.

“Nearby everybody who could qualify for Virgin Money’s 0 per cent balance transfer for 16 months has probably got it by now,” Hagger says. “It’s been the first port of call for a long time.”

Hagger notes that a few products remain for clients with good credit records: Santander’s 0 per cent balance transfers runs for 15 months, while two others offer 0 per cent for 13 months – Halifax Mastercard and BT Visa Credit Card.

Daniella Lipszyc, solicitor and director at Ultimate Law, which advises card-holders in trouble, fears that some consumers face 50 years of suffocating debt.

“Introductory offers, such as 0 per cent balance transfers and 0 per cent APR for the first few months, get consumers signed up,” she says.

“Many don’t realise that once the initial period of the agreement ends, rates can rocket and interest payments can get out of hand.

“It takes almost 50 years to clear a debt of £5,000 by making the minimum repayment each month, on a typical APR of 16.9 per cent. Over that time, you’ll pay a staggering £10,773.93 in interest.”

Lipszyc argues that no

signed and properly executed agreements were completed for many new cards. Some lenders see this will cause problems if cases go to court and are hiring debt collectors to pressurise clients at home and at work.

“One of my clients has card debts of more than £150,000, but £10,000 is enough to get many into trouble,” she says.

Card providers, for their part, are also under pressure: they have lost rich pickings from the sale of Payment Protection Insurance with cards due to new regulations, and have seen penalty charges, which they levy on late payers, cut by Government action.

### Spending power

But they can always raise rates. Lipszyc believes card providers have “terrific freedoms” despite the new controls.

“My husband had an AMEX card charging 19.6 per cent which jumped to 26 per cent – a 33 per cent rise – a few days after Bank base rate hit 0.5 per cent,” she says.

As problems deepen, Lipszyc thinks providers may accept deals – perhaps accepting a portion of a £10,000 debt – to tidy the books.

But the providers’ decision to raise the spending limit for many

customers in recent months – without being asked to do so – could backfire badly. Price-comparison service uSwitch.com reckons 5.7 million people received a boost to their credit-card limit in the

last year without being told about it, giving an average £1,538 per person for an extra £8.8bn of spending power.

“In the current climate, you could be fooled into thinking that increasing spending limits is a good thing as it stops people going over the limit and incurring extra charges,” says uSwitch’s Louise Bond.

“However, the issue is far more complicated. Providers are taking away consumer choice by throwing extra credit at people without their consent.

“Unless you regularly pay off your credit card bill in full, keeping high levels of debt on interest-bearing credit cards isn’t advisable. It’s an expensive form of borrowing.”

Peter Harrison, credit-card specialist at Moneysupermarket.com, says consumers must be aware of different rates charged on balance transfers and new purchases. A tempting 0 per cent on balance transfers might run for 12 months, while new purchases incur interest charges after three months.

Both Nationwide and SAGA cards, he says, offer a ‘positive hierarchy’ of repayment – money paid back each month cuts debt attracting the highest rate of interest.

“The fact is that many people who can’t repay debts intend to keep paying the minimum monthly sum required – usually one per cent to five per cent of outstanding balance – in the hope something turns up,” he says.

“It isn’t really the best way forward. If you don’t begin to start paying debts off, lenders may be entitled to increase rates because of higher risk.”

If you fear your card debts are out of control, the experts urge you to seek help – either from the card provider, or a debt advisor.

“The advantage of admitting problems is that the card provider is less likely to increase rates while the customer tries to sort things out,” says Harrison.

“Those who bury their head in the sand to avoid the problem could be most at risk of losing their homes in the months ahead.”

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**CARD CHAOS:** Outstanding card debt tops £64 billion in the UK

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■ KOS is offering a Doro 338 GSM Big button mobile phone for £99.99

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TERMS AND CONDITIONS APPLY TO ALL OFFERS

# Keeping your PPI

## If you think you have been mis-sold a policy, you can claim compensation. Find out how...

THERE has been much confusion around Payment Protection Insurance (PPI) in recent months, and the fact is that everyone needs to educate themselves on what it is and whether you need it, to ensure that you are not being mis-sold to.

If you think your policy has been mis-sold then there are steps you can take to ensure you get the compensation you deserve.

Here **Martyn Paddon**, senior practice manager at Bromley-based MTA Solicitors, dispels some of the myths about PPI.

### WHAT IS PPI?

There are around 20 million PPI policies in the UK, generating over £5 billion a year for the companies involved. The policies cover repayments in the event that you are made redundant or unable to work due to illness or injury.

In many cases the policies are automatically added to a loan agreement regardless of whether the policy holder has requested one, and can increase the amount repayable by thousands of pounds over the life of the loan.

Consumers are often unaware of this taking place and many people fall outside of the bracket for which the policy applies. For exam-

ple if you are retired, self-employed or not reliant on an income, you may not need or benefit from PPI as for a large part these policies cover you if you are employed and lose your job through redundancy.

When you take out a loan there are strict laws dictating how the loan is sold to you, which are there to protect you from unfair practices. The selling of PPI policies is regulated and falls within the Consumer Credit Act, which can be complex, so it is the lender who has to ensure that policies are sold correctly.

If the correct process has not been adhered to the PPI policy could be mis-sold and you may be entitled to a refund of the policy, plus interest. Also many sellers are paid commission on the sale, so are keen for you to take on Payment Protection Insurance regardless of whether you actually need it.

The financial regulator has been fining PPI companies for "not treating customers fairly", plus the Competition Commission has investigated the market and has placed a number of demands on lenders to curb these unscrupulous practices. But this comes as little relief to those consumers who have already been mis-sold PPI.

### WHAT TO DO IF YOU THINK YOUR POLICY HAS BEEN MIS-SOLD

There are hundreds of thousands of potential mis-sold policies out there and it is possi-

ble to seek compensation on mis-sold PPI going back six years. So what are the options if you think you may have been a victim of mis-selling?

The biggest hurdle is knowing whether you've been mis-sold PPI in the first place. You may have taken out loans in the past and have no knowledge of whether the lender has even sold you PPI, as they may have wrapped this into the re-payment figure without you even realising. Often this can be ascertained by examining your loan documents carefully.

Many people embark on their own battle to try and recoup the money they have already paid on mis-sold insurance but lenders can drag their heels, only paying out the minimum (with no interest), or simply refusing to pay out at all. People then give up, thinking this is the maximum to be repaid, or that there isn't a case to be won. However getting some professional legal support at this stage would increase the likelihood that they would receive a lot more.

Choosing the services of claims management companies, who now offer PPI reclaiming services, needs to be thoroughly investigated before proceeding. Many of these companies have simply jumped on the bandwagon without the expertise and it's probably best to tread cautiously. Some charge an upfront fee which should not be necessary.

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**UNSCRUPULOUS PRACTICES:** many sellers are paid commission on the sale, so are keen for you to take on Payment Protection Insurance regardless of whether you actually need it

Seeking legal advice may be a more viable option, as most solicitors will charge on a 'no win no fee' basis.

By seeking professional legal advice, you stand a better chance of proving to the lender that the PPI policy has been mis-sold and obtaining proper compensation.

## CHOOSE THE RIGHT POLICY FOR YOU

Consumers do need to understand this type of Payment Protection Insurance,

ensure they need it and take on the responsibility to shop around. You need to take out insurance that's suitable for you and ensure the lender is giving you options.

You should be very wary if the insurance policy is tied-in to you receiving a loan.

Despite all the negativity around PPI, it is a very valid insurance if sold correctly, and should you need to make a claim, can mean the difference between losing everything and retaining your lifestyle.

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TERMS AND CONDITIONS APPLY TO ALL OFFERS

# Money fraud figures double in South East

By **ALEX HOAD**

BIG-MONEY fraud is at its highest level in decades and has almost doubled in a year in the South East.

The news comes from research by global financial powerhouse KPMG Forensic, which also revealed more than half the fraud in the UK by value takes place in the region.

More than 160 cases of serious fraud with charges of over £100,000 came before the courts in the first half of the year – the highest number in any six-month period since KPMG launched its fraud barometer 21 years ago.

The South East remains the UK's fraud hotspot, with 63 serious frauds taking place in the first six months of the year – up from 38 in the same period in 2008.

The value of the frauds was more than £350m – more than half of the UK's overall total.

Among the Kent cases were an Ightham man who claimed he was a land developer earning £90,000 a year to obtain two false mortgages worth £346,000.

A Swanley mechanic was implicated in a £38m stolen car ring, while two employees of a Kent insurer lodged bogus claims to defraud their employer of £462,000.

Investors were the biggest victims, losing £320m – mainly to professional gangs, which accounted for £450m of fraud nationwide.

Company managers were also responsible for defrauding their employers of £150m in 32 cases throughout the UK



**DODGY DEALS:** Hard times mean more people are driven to fraud by personal pressures, and more investors are willing to believe in bogus cooked-up investment schemes

Over a quarter of cases, worth £111m, were committed against financial institutions.

Commenting on the figures, Hitesh Patel, partner at KPMG Forensic, said: "These figures are bad, but the worst is yet to come."

"It will be a number of years before the impact of the recession fully feeds through into the fraud statistics."

"Hard times mean more people are driven to fraud by personal pressures, and more investors are willing to believe in cooked-up investment schemes."

"Companies too remain vulnerable to the threat within – their staff – as evidenced by the £150m of fraud that managers have been tried for in the last six months alone."

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TERMS AND CONDITIONS APPLY TO ALL OFFERS

# Getting Medway back in business

## New council schemes will help economic growth

BY ALEX HOAD

WHILE the recession continues to bite across the country, individuals and businesses in Medway will soon be offered even more help to beat it.

The local council has developed a series of counter-recessionary measures, including a scheme to support graduates and a programme of business start-up grants.

These measures are designed to show support for local business start-up and growth as well as workforce development.

The measures are also targeted at the priorities identified in the council's new draft Economic Development Strategy.

Portfolio holder for strategic development and economic growth Cllr Jane Chitty said: "Combatting the recession is high on Medway Council's agenda and we are committed to doing everything we can to help business growth and job creation at a local level."

"Medway has built a very strong business sector, ranging from engineering and manufacturing to service industries and it is imperative that we build on this very sound foundation.

"These 10 counter-recessionary measures show our commitment as a council to support local residents and businesses."

**The 10 measures are:**

• **Micro-enterprise graduate work placement scheme:** It is important that students see Medway as a place to utilise their qualifications and skills.

This scheme will provide micro-businesses in Medway with access to talented local graduates – allowing graduates to gain valuable work experience and providing businesses with valuable skills. This scheme will start in the autumn.

• **Business start-up grants programme:** These will be grants available up to a maximum of £1,000, which will help budding entrepreneurs to start up their own businesses. Further information on this scheme will be available shortly and the scheme will begin in September.

• **Partners for Growth (PFG) interest-free loan scheme:** Previously, businesses wanting

to apply for the scheme had to have a bank loan in place before they were eligible. However, many small and medium-sized companies in Medway have found it difficult getting extra finance from banks due to the current recession. In answer to this, Medway Council has relaxed the criteria of the scheme and companies no longer need to have a bank loan to apply.

• **Medway Retail Conference and launch of Retail Champions scheme:** On October 1, the Medway Retail Conference will mark the launch of the Retail Champions' scheme, which takes place at the St George's Centre in Chatham Maritime. It aims to support Medway's retail businesses by advising about local workforce training and business support programmes, covering aspects such as customer service skills, effective business development and marketing.

• **Employ Medway:** Starting in August, Employ Medway will focus on those people who are recently unemployed or have been made redundant. Employ Medway advisors will work with clients to enable them to review their options, look at addressing their training

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and skills needs and further provide support in seeking alternative local employment. A dedicated advice centre will open next month in Chatham High Street.

• **Managed workspace:** Medway Council has more than 100 business units at affordable rents across three sites, including the newly opened Innovation Centre which provides high quality business space tailored for innovative, ambitious and dynamic businesses. All tenants receive personalised business advice and support at all of the council's managed workspace sites. The council has vacant premises ready and available to businesses with aspirations for growth.

• **Transmanche Enterprise Network:** An advice service to assist businesses to find new markets on the other side of the Channel.

• **Eco-Advantage Scheme:** A training and development programme for local businesses advising them how they can respond to the challenge of climate change while also reducing costs.

This scheme will become operational in the autumn.

• **Creative Industries – business support and networking:** Support for the growth and development of Medway's creative businesses through the appointment of a dedicated business support officer.

cer. This role will also include implementing initiatives that will encourage networking between creative businesses as well as business partnerships with other complementary sectors, such as manufacturing. Medway Council hopes to recruit for this position in the autumn.

• **Medway apprenticeships scheme in partnership with local training providers:** The development of a new local apprenticeship scheme to provide valuable work experience to young people aged from 16 to 24. Opportunities will include apprenticeships within the council as well as with private sector contractors to the council. This scheme will start in October.

For more information email the business support team at [business.support@medway.gov.uk](mailto:business.support@medway.gov.uk).



**PLANTING IDEAS:**  
New council measures are designed to show support for local business start-up and growth as well as workforce development

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# Retailing in the recession

**David Garrard**, associate director and retail negotiator working at the Maidstone office of Christie + Co, shares his thoughts on the corporate retail property sector in the South East



**RETAIL NEGOTIATOR:** David Garrard

**BUSINESSES** in the retail sector, be it convenience store, off-licence, forecourt or newsagent, are certainly not immune to the global financial crisis we currently find ourselves dealing with, but are proving less susceptible than businesses in other areas of the retail market.

Although average property values in the retail sector fell across the UK in 2008, they did so at a much more modest rate than those reported in other business property sectors, for example what pubs and hotels witnessed.

This trend has been maintained across the South East retail market over the last six months, demonstrating the sector's resilience and showing that levels of confidence remain high amongst established operators and first-time buyers.

Many business owners we talk to indicate that turnovers have remained steady, although there has been some pressure on margins, while some have witnessed an increase in turnover. Despite all the economic pressures, it should be remembered that convenience stores, etc, generally provide staple products which consumers buy on a regular basis.

The fact that transactional levels have remained fairly stable also shows that independent operators clearly continue to believe in their ability to build successful local retail businesses.

We are also seeing that buyers with commercial or residential portfolios are taking a long-term view of their assets in the hope they rebuild their value— they are also looking for cash-generating businesses. These predominantly cash-rich buyers, who have been sitting on the sidelines for the last eight months, have steadily come back into the market looking for opportunities where they can add value.

With banks becoming increasingly stringent regarding their lending criteria, established local operators are also taking advantage of a reduction in competition from national operators and declines in values, to enhance their estates. The banks are seemingly more willing to back those with existing successful operations.

An operator's ability to make his store a vital part of the local community has never been more important. The economic slowdown has provided switched-on retailers, across all our sectors, with opportunities to develop their operations. Well-run businesses, which provide a valuable offer to their local communities — including good product availability and a speedy service with a personal touch — can

still generate sales, especially as consumers cut down on luxury items and concentrate on necessities.

The first half of the year has continued to highlight the fact that people's appetite for this ever-changing market remains strong. Despite the doom and gloom being propagated by national media regarding the commercial property market at present, there are still plenty of people looking to buy both freehold and leasehold opportunities in the retail sector.

The last six months has also highlighted that it is imperative for businesses and would-be buyers to seek professional, up-to-the-minute advice, whether you are selling or valuing a property.

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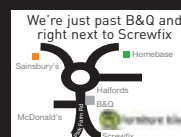
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**Photographer David Watkins and Gabrielle Gothe on their new business that's thriving despite the crunch**

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■ Oliver Carpets is offering five per cent off when you spend over £250

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TERMS AND CONDITIONS APPLY TO ALL OFFERS

By JEREMY GATES

WHEN full-page adverts claim the price of gold has soared 30 per cent in the past six months alone, it isn't only those facing big debts or mortgage arrears who are tempted to turn old heirlooms and unwanted gifts into cash.

Strictly speaking, the claim isn't true. Gold is down about 18 per cent on the £700 level seen in February, while the dollar price is down from 1,006 to 955 in the same period. But this is unlikely to deter sellers who need cash.

Earlier this year, gold achieved its highest-ever price against sterling, the euro, the Swiss franc and the dollar in Canada, Australia and New Zealand – indeed just about everywhere except for the Japanese yen and the US dollar.

After years of steely jewellers looking dismissively at a well-worn keepsake and advising desperate owners not to waste their time, the internet is creating a world where it is much easier to turn surplus items into cash.

With British Government debt soaring towards a trillion pounds, Adrian Ash, head of research at BullionVault, the UK's leading online service for gold bullion investment, reckons the craze for turning valuable metals into cash may be only just beginning.

"When Cash4Gold, a big American company, gets going in Britain, you could see quite an impact on this business," he says.

"These boys are big enough to take a two-minute advertisement in the Superbowl. A significant amount of the booming level of scrap-gold supply may be down to the model they've established.

"Theirs is an impressive business model: heavy advertising, an efficient collection/distribution network and a cheque rapidly dispatched for vendors."

Website CashYourgoldNow.co.uk, which promises a "fast, efficient and very discreet"

# Get ready for the gold rush

service, is likely to feel the draught as the Americans arrive.

Its selling angle is that any unwanted old jewellery can be turned into instant cash for a holiday, a new outfit, bills or a special occasion.

The argument is a timely one because gold has been a relatively steady store of value through 18 months of financial turmoil which has wiped nearly £9 trillion off global share values. Most other investments, apart from US Treasury bonds, have headed south.

## Jewellery

Ash says the "scrap side" of gold sales boomed globally in the first quarter of 2009, with a total value of 500-1,000 metric tonnes sold by owners seeking cash.

If private sales continued at levels seen earlier this year, the scrap side could soon generate more gold than the 2,500 tonnes annually produced by commercial mines.

"Heavy selling by private owners in Asia and the Far East is normal and what you would expect," Ash says.

"There is no banking network in rural India, so farmers turn profits into gold, not rupees, and then sell heavy 'investment jewellery' for cash in the planting season.

"What's new is the volume of old jewellery coming out of Western households. It is being sold off in greater volumes than at any time since the recession of 1979-81."

However, Ash thinks second-quarter sales

might actually fall: gold prices tend to drift in summer, and sales have attracted less media coverage lately.

It is also possible, he thinks, that households have dumped items they thought about selling for years. Websites offer easier access to buyers, and a cleaner sale.

But are people selling too cheaply?

Krista Waddell at Ounces to Pounds, which organises 'Gold Parties', claims her 'tupperware-style' events in London, Birmingham, Manchester, Leeds and Scotland pay out £50,000 per week.

"Cash4Gold is short-changing Britain," she claims. "Its margin is chewed away on TV advertising and profit, and not put in the pockets of British consumers."

"With our parties, people see what they are getting, without delay. They get a good price there and then for unwanted gold, platinum and silver. No waiting, no hassle."

Waddell says her customers, mainly 45-plus and mostly women, are not turning valuables into cash to pay the rent.

"They have stuff sitting around and no other sales outlet, and they won't use pawnbrokers," she says.

"Often, they bought items in the 1980s when gold was a third of the price it is today. If they sell today at 50 per cent of value, they still make money. It's a fun evening, and it's an unusual sale which puts cash in your pocket!"

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**MONEY MAKER:** Old jewellery can be turned into instant cash for a holiday, a new outfit, bills or a special occasion



actions later, say lenders who accept your valuables as security for a loan and return them when the loan is redeemed.

Paul Aitken at leading online asset lender Borro.com says he has been following this market closely since it began in the United States 18 months ago.

"Too many people accept offers of 20-30 pence in the pound. Those who see jewellery as a way of getting money should consider all other options first.

"We can usually lend more money than they will get from a sale. They can come back, perhaps within two months, and have their goods back after we deduct interest.

"In close to 90 per cent of cases we take on, the customer gets back whatever item they have pledged. But this is a solution to short-term money problems, not long-term ones."

Aitken says that when such artifacts are melted down for their precious metals, any intrinsic value, both in workmanship and sentiment, is destroyed.

"If you need money in a hurry, don't sell under distress at a gold party because you are

unlikely to get the best price."

Aitken says 'asset lending' is much easier since the internet reduced the need to find a pawnbroker: just go online, find out what an item is worth, send it off in a secure envelope and the cash is ready in 24 hours.

However, Borro charges four per cent a month on a loan of £1,000. Over six months, a £1,000 loan costs £300 interest.

Of course, any owner of valuable goods should think carefully before they sell.

Mark Gettinby, director of Intune, the financial services arm of Help The Aged, says it is important to be aware of security as you will be dealing with people you don't know.

"If selling goods online, never give out bank details and make sure you wait for any cheques to clear before parting with the goods," he advises.

"If people come to your house to pick up items, arrange a time when you are not alone. And if you're not selling goods through an auction marketplace, it's always worth getting a second opinion on the price offered to verify you're getting the best possible price."

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Yourkenttv presenter Julie Maddocks discovers how changing her driving habits could save her money

## Essential guide to where you can save

■ KOS is offering rechargeable micro luggage scales for £19.99

■ Hobbs Parker in Ashford is offering good quality second hand cars from £500

■ Maidstone Kia Motor Dealer in Maidstone is offering MOTs for £45

■ Rochester Court Kitchens is offering 20 per cent off solid wood kitchens

■ KOS is offering a Garden Sonic Blaster for £29.99

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TERMS AND CONDITIONS APPLY TO ALL OFFERS

# Save by buying a car

BY STEVE LOADER

## BUY a car in a recession?

It sounds mad, but there might never be a better time for some of us.

With savings accounts earning so little, you might make more by saving a huge wedge on a new car thanks to big discounts at the moment.

Fact is, there has been much hype about the Government-sponsored Scrappage scheme (see later story), but dealers have been knocking cash off cars for months – whether you have a 10-year-old 'scrapper' to trade or not.

There are other deals that can be factored in too, such as zero or low rate finance.

And don't forget to ask for trimmings like a tank of fuel, car mats or discounts on any add-ons you fancy.

Do your homework though to ensure you are not buying an unpopular engine or trim combination or, worse, a car on 'run-out' where production ceased a while ago.

After all, you don't want to trade your old gas guzzler for another just as thirsty or likely to depreciate badly.

Buy wisely though and your new vehicle could save on fuel, insurance, road tax and even depreciation, though cars always devalue unless they achieve classic status.

You can also afford to congratulate yourself for ditching something less efficient in favour of a modern and more eco-friendly model.

On the other hand, review your part-exchange; you might have lost tons on that big 4x4, but work out the running costs for the next three years – they might be much less



**WISE BUY:** Chevrolet's ultra-new Cruze (above) and the versatile Nissan Qashqai (left) are two models to tempt you if you decide to raid those savings accounts



the motoring budget for most of us.

Many superminis sit in the lowest road tax band of £35 a year and though you might be tempted by new tax-exempt diesel eco models, just check the price against a standard version.

The eco supermini might save £105 road tax over three years, but how much will you pay upfront for it? A lot more and you might not think the driving experience is worth paying extra for either.

So, check out conventional equivalents of eco models and don't dismiss petrol power; the fuel is still cheaper and makes sense for lower mileage users, while emission and consumption levels are closing the gap on their heavier diesel equivalents.

than the cost of replacing it.

Road tax also favours downsizing – gas guzzling limos or 4x4s face £950 a year road tax from next year – but this is still a small part of

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### 3 The Government giving away money.

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BY **STEVE LOADER**

**DOWNSIZING** to a more fuel and tax efficient car must be just part of your recession-busting motoring plan.

The next stage involves smarter driving and journey planning and getting fitter by walking and cycling instead of using the car for short journeys – cold engines waste fuel and produce 60 per cent more emissions than warm ones.

Short trips also mean more servicing and engine wear – a moped or motorcycle might be a better option.

If you must drive, follow these tips from the Institute of Advanced Motorists and RAC Foundation:

- Plan your route to save strain on car and driver. Take the direct route – a sat nav can help – and go off peak if possible. Commuters should think about car sharing, Park and Ride bus schemes or other public transport.

- Have your vehicle serviced regularly. Neglected engines waste at least ten per cent more fuel and catalytic converters only clean emissions when properly maintained.

- Check tyres – under-inflated tyres wear faster, waste fuel, are dangerous and contribute to a growing environmental problem. Check pressures weekly.

- Obey speed limits to save and stay legal. Feather the throttle at cruising speed; 56mph uses 25 per cent less fuel than 70mph and a smoother driving style saves fuel.

- Accelerate briskly without racing the engine – pulling away too fast uses up to 60 per cent more fuel. Intelligent gear changes at modest engine speeds can save up to 15 per cent in fuel.

- Reduce drag – remove roof racks and carriers when not in use and keep windows closed to avoid drag and wasted fuel. Remove unnecessary and heavy boot luggage and

# Smarter driving for better saving



**SENSIBLE CHOICE:** Downsizing to modern cars like the Peugeot 107 city car (right) or affordable Kia Ceed family hatch – with a seven-year warranty – can save money, but sensible driving can knock even more off your motoring bill

wide wheels and tyres that add rolling resistance. Air conditioning costs fuel too so try to use the fan and vents unassisted.

- Buy green fuel and use less. Look for low sulphur 'city' diesel or cleaner petrol (low sulphur/aromatics). Consider converting to LPG (liquid petroleum gas) – half the price of petrol and with lower emissions.

- Think ahead – there is no point rushing

and then having to brake suddenly.

- Be a tank miser. Why fill the tank to the brim and burn more fuel carrying more weight than necessary?

- Stuck in traffic? Turn off the engine after two minutes to save fuel and emissions.

- For more eco driving tips see Julie Maddocks' online video report at: <http://www.yourkenttv.co.uk/community>.

## Essential guide to where you can save

■ JC Farley furniture store in Ramsgate is offering a free dishwasher with every kitchen order over £7000

■ Living Out log cabins shop in Chestfield, Maidstone, is offering 10 per cent off everything

■ Furniture Island in Folkestone is offering an extra five per cent off all garden furniture

■ Secure Style windows doors and conservatories store in Herne Bay is offering 30 per cent off conservatories

■ Bourne Road Motor Dealer in Crayford is offering free car mats with all Mazda purchases new and used

■ Decorators Choice in Canterbury is offering 15 per cent off all paints

■ The Orchard restaurant in Maidstone is offering Kids Eat for Free

■ Hazel Motors in Chatham is offering £20 off air con

■ KOS is offering a Karcher pressure washer kit £99.99 including free accessories, save £116 on RRP

■ KOS is offering Snuggly mattress topper from Slumberdown from only £69.99, save up to £40. Various sizes available

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# Scrapheap banger is motoring ahead

AFTER a shaky start, the Government's £2,000-a-go Scrappage incentive is purring like a sports car.

It has been so successful that the £300 million fund set aside by the Treasury could be exhausted before the official cut-off date next March.

So, while there is some talk of a top-up donation, get your order in now if you fancy swapping your banger – firm orders will be honoured even if the delivery of the new car is delayed.

The donor car must have been registered before 31 August 1999 and your name must have been on the V5 'logbook' for 12 months before the date your new car order is placed.

For their part, carmakers have mostly embraced the deal after initial disappoint-

BY **STEVE LOADER**

ment that they would be expected to contribute half of each '£2,000 Government Scrappage grant' and noting that the Treasury would claw back some of its money through VAT on each car sale.

Some brands have even put extra money on the table on top of their £1,000 per unit as well as extra specification and zero per cent finance – though this is no big deal when interest rates are so low.

On the other hand, consumers with savings will know they are receiving precious little return and be tempted to seek a psychological boost from buying a new motor that should be cheaper to fuel and tax.

And don't be despondent if not in a position to take advantage of Scrappage; with the

exception of city cars and superminis, you should get a hefty discount on most new cars in the current climate without needing a banger to scrap.

If you have been out of the car market for a while though, do your research. You will have heard that diesel cars now outsell petrol, but that is not the full picture.

They cost more and the extra weight can be wearing and intrusive in the smaller cars most in demand now and you need to cover many miles to recover the extra upfront outlay.

Meanwhile, petrol is making a comeback with lighter, small capacity turbocharged engines able to deliver diesel pulling power and lower emissions.

You might also consider a hybrid, but these cost more and this must also be weighed against the mileage you intend to cover.



**SALES BOOST:** The Government-sponsored Scrappage scheme has boosted sales of newly-arrived small hatchbacks like the exotic Alfa Romeo MiTo (above) and ultra-frugal Hyundai i10 (right)



## Essential guide to where you can save

■ KOS is offering personalised Weekender Bags for £29.99

■ Maidstone Kia Motor Dealer in Maidstone is offering a free set of maps with any new car purchased before the end of September

■ Robins and Day Canterbury Motor Dealer in Canterbury is offering MOTs for £29.99 and service and MOT from £119.99

■ Baileys Nissan Motor Dealer in Canterbury is offering 15 per cent off MOTs  
■ Caffyns Vauxhall Motor Dealer in Tunbridge Wells is offering half-price MOT with a service

■ Old Sawmills furniture store in Ashford is offering 20 per cent off all showroom items

■ Chart Hills Golf Club in Biddenden is offering 10 per cent discount on all room hire

■ Village Hotel in Maidstone is offering free loaded nachos worth £5.95 when you buy a bucket of six Mexican Sol beers from the Victory pub

■ Furniture Island in Folkestone is offering an extra 10 per cent off all sofas with this voucher

■ Linwood Electronics in Rainham is offering £100 off a Panasonic G10 series Plasma when you trade in your old TV

■ Northgate Alfa Motor Dealer in Canterbury is offering air conditioning service for £79.95+vat

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**IN DEMAND:** Small hatchbacks like the frugal Mazda2 (far right), chic Renault Clio and big-selling Vauxhall Corsa (below) are in demand, helped by low running costs including low road tax bills



## Essential guide to where you can save

■ Northgate Alfa Motor Dealer in Canterbury is offering fixed-price servicing for cars three years plus. Gold Care petrol or diesel, £169

■ KOS is offering a Pulsar Kinetic Watch for only £49.99 (inc p&p) no battery required, saving more than 50 per cent on RRP

■ Baileys Nissan Motor Dealer in Canterbury is offering 15 per cent off all servicing

■ Homewood Orchard Garden Centre in Maidstone is offering 10 per cent off all its garden furniture range

■ Bones on Beds in Herne Bay is offering 10 per cent off mattresses

■ Living Out log cabins store in Chestfield, Maidstone, is offering free installation on all standard range log cabins

■ Motoline Renault Motor Dealer in Canterbury, Ashford and Maidstone is offering £99 service and free MOT for vehicles three years and older

■ Bradgate Park Luxury Holiday Homes in Margate is offering free Sunday lunch for two when you view the holiday homes

■ Secure Style, windows doors and conservatories in Herne Bay is offering 30 per cent off fascias

■ KOS is offering Sun Blaster glare shields from £14.99

To get these offers go to:

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TERMS AND CONDITIONS APPLY TO ALL OFFERS

# Pros and cons of tax savings

BY **STEVE LOADER**

**WHATEVER** you do, don't swap your current car just to save a few pounds on road tax.

On the other hand, Government efforts to tax 'gas guzzlers' off the road can further ease the burden on your motoring budget if you

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Bands H and I (161-180g/km) – £175  
Bands J and K (181-225g/km) – £215  
Band L (226-255g/km) – £405  
Band M (255g/km plus) – £405

plan to downsize or go for a more fuel-efficient model.

Chancellor Alistair Darling has taken the pressure off a bit after an outcry induced by draconian rates due to be applied to larger cars, just as the recession clobbered the economy.

But Labour – and a Conservative government is unlikely to be different due to the world's environmental worries – has said it will continue to drive down vehicle sizes and emissions by using tough VED (Vehicle Excise Duty) rates, based on CO<sub>2</sub> emissions rather than fuel consumption and applying only to cars registered after March 1, 2001.



Inconsistent emissions data on older cars means these are taxed simply at £120/year up to 1,549cc and then £185 if larger – something of a bargain for owners of older 'gas guzzlers' if they can bear higher fuel bills, opt for a £1,500-2,000 LPG (liquid petroleum gas) conversion or cover relatively few miles.

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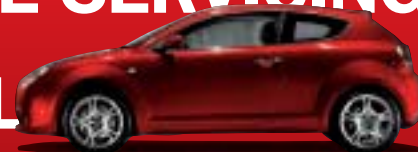
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- CHECK WASHERS AND WIPERS
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- FIT NEW ENGINE OIL FILTER
- CHECK BRAKE PIPES AND LINES
- CHECK EXHAUST SYSTEM
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- REPORT ON TYRE TREAD DEPTH

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- CHECK DRIVE BELTS (EXCLUDES CAM BELT)
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- CHECK FOR ANY BODY DEFECTS
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- REPORT ON TYRE TREAD DEPTH
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## Builder develops young people

HOUSE-builder Persimmon Homes has launched a training scheme for school leavers.

A total of 21 positions – eight on site and 13 in technical departments – are available at the firm for youngsters who have achieved at least five A\* to C grades in their GCSE exams, including English and maths.

Chief executive Mike Farley said: “While we are proud of our track record in developing opportunities for a broad cross-section of trainees, we recognise the recent impact of the downturn. Now the market is stabilising, we are eager to rebuild by once again investing in young people for the future.”

Visit [www.persimmonhomes.com](http://www.persimmonhomes.com) and click on the recruitment link for more information.

## Pupils rewarded for determination

SECONDARY school pupils received a possible taste of things to come when they graduated from the Medway Children's University.

Youngsters representing 17 schools studied for modules in areas such as archaeology, forensic science and drama as part of the Medway Council scheme.

They each received a medal and certificate for their efforts during a ceremony at the University of Kent's Medway campus.

Prof Clare Mackie said: “The children we saw clearly had a great desire and determination to test themselves and see what they could achieve.”

“They have now taken the first step towards the type of fulfilling careers that a university education can deliver.”

## Awards ceremony brings skills in line



A LECTURER from Orpington College was one of more than 100 across the country honoured by the Institute for Learning.

The IfL hosted an awards ceremony in Westminster for the first-ever group of teachers to have gained either Qualified Teacher Learning and Skills, or Associate Teacher Learning and Skills status.

Malcolm Harker, head of business studies at Orpington, was one of them.

He said: “I feel it is very important to have established standards for adult teaching practice.”

“Although I feel there are a lot of excellent teaching standards in further education already, this is an important step towards parity with our peers in schools.”

# A degree of hope for school leavers

A NEW Kent County Council scheme will present four school-leavers with the opportunity to juggle full-time jobs with university degrees.

The authority has four vacancies on its finance team and will fill them by recruiting 18 and 19-year-olds who have recently completed their A-levels.

Cabinet member for finance Cllr John Simmonds said it was right that KCC should lead the way during the recession.

He said: “In these difficult times it is more important than ever to offer opportunities to young people.”

“These young people from Kent schools are our future and they will have the chance to become a graduate, join a profession and follow a rewarding career.”

A group of 13 youngsters – from which the final four will be selected – have been invited to attend a two-day assessment at the Oakwood House mansion in Maidstone.

They will be interviewed by a panel and asked to complete a number of individual and group challenges, with the best candi-

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

[steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk](mailto:steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk)

dates placed on a five-year training programme that will lead to a BSc (Hons) degree in applied accounting.

The degree, which will be provided by the Oxford Brookes University, forms part of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA) qualification.

The successful candidates will also earn membership to the ACCA, which is the fastest growing professional accountancy body in the world.

Lizi Payne, who began work with KCC's finance team as part of the authority's graduate training scheme, will form part of the interview panel during the assessment and will also act as the programme manager.

She said: “I think this is a very exciting opportunity for all these young people.”

“Together with all the other young professionals at KCC, I want to offer them the benefit of my own experience and support them in the challenges they face while working in public finance.”

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In addition, you will need to be able to respond to people in a professional  
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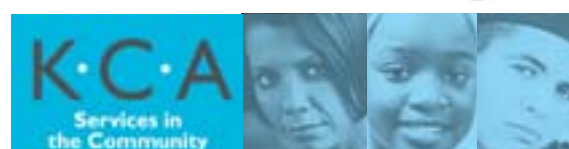
For an informal discussion regarding the role, please contact Ann Colyer,  
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Closing date: Wednesday 2 September 2009.  
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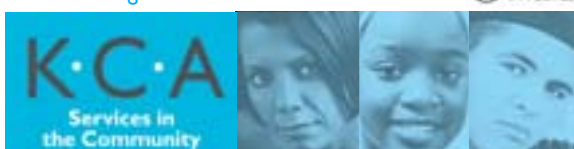
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## Inspire people through sport

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### Part-time Lecturer in Sport

0.5 fte, 18.5hrs  
£11,763 - £16,172  
Tonbridge, Kent

Do you have what it takes to engage and inspire young people through sport? You will need to be enthusiastic and passionate about your subject for sure. But you will also need to be a great communicator who can support every one of your students to achieve their goals.

Joining a progressive, growing and ambitious lecturing team, you will teach on courses at a range of levels as you deliver an exceptional learning experience. An appropriate professional background and qualifications are essential, while FE lecturing experience would be ideal.

You can look forward to full support to develop your skills and career - as well as an excellent benefits package including generous annual leave, final salary pension, flexible working options and private health plan.

**To find out more, view our full list of opportunities and apply online, visit [www.wkc.ac.uk](http://www.wkc.ac.uk) Alternatively call 01732 376511 or email [hr-dept@wkc.ac.uk](mailto:hr-dept@wkc.ac.uk) Please quote ref: KOS09**

**Closing date: 12noon on 27th August 2009**



## MidKent College

MidKent College based in the Medway Towns and Maidstone  
is seeking to appoint an outstanding individual in the following areas:

### Lecturer in Foundation Learning Ref: P0567

Salary: £25,895- £29,622 per annum

We are looking to recruit an outstanding individual to teach and participate in the development of the Life and Work Skills for learners with learning difficulties and/or disabilities. The successful candidate will have good communication skills, a patient and mature attitude and hold or be willing to work towards a recognised teaching qualification.

### Assessor/Reviewing Officer Ref: P0586

Salary: £20,368 - £26,255

MKC offers Apprenticeship frameworks and is responding to employer training needs for on-site assessment. We are therefore looking to appoint a qualified, experienced Assessor/Reviewing Officer in Engineering, for Plumbing and Heating. The successful candidate will be highly motivated and able to assess trainees on NVQ qualifications including, 'Train to Gain' learners within our successful Engineering and Plumbing department's. A relevant craft qualification is essential and the successful candidate will have or be willing to work towards Assessor/Verifier and H&S qualifications.

**Closing date: Friday 28 August 2009**

MidKent College is working in partnership with RBLI Employment Solutions to support individuals who have a disability or health condition in the application, interview and employment with the college. If you would like any further information regarding RBLI, or require assistance with your application process then please contact RBLI on 0800 783 1144 or visit their website [www.rbli.co.uk](http://www.rbli.co.uk) for information, advice and guidance.

The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau check in accordance with the College procedure.

Application forms and further details are available from [www.midkent.ac.uk](http://www.midkent.ac.uk). Alternatively, please e-mail [job.applications@midkent.ac.uk](mailto:job.applications@midkent.ac.uk). For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 884402 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.

MidKent College is an equal opportunities employer



### Part Time Tutors

Salary: LNFA 1-3 (£19.49 - £24.99 per hour)

#### Japanese Tutor Ref CA0724E

To teach classes at beginners or elementary levels.

#### Family Literacy and Numeracy Tutor Ref CA0725E

To plan and deliver literacy and numeracy courses to parents and carers in schools and community venues.

#### Skills for Life Literacy Ref CA0726E 18.5 hours per week

#### Skills for Life Numeracy Ref CA0727E 18.5 hours per week

We are recruiting for enthusiastic and committed Skills for Life tutors to teach across all levels from Entry Level 3 to Level 2. Delivery will take place in a range of settings including Train to Gain, family literacy/numeracy, Fast Track to Level 2 and community projects.

For all part-time tutor posts you need to be qualified or highly skilled in the subject specialism, qualified to teach adults. If you do not hold a Cert Ed, DTLLS or PTLLS, you must be prepared to start on a training course at the first available opportunity within your employment and definitely within the first year, a good communicator able to negotiate and support personalised learning within a group learning environment, prepared to work flexibly according to the needs of the Service and the learner to ensure that the course is fully delivered and able to work at any venue within the Medway area as required

Medway Adult and Community Learning Service is committed to the National Skills for Life Strategy and operates a whole organisation approach to it. All staff are expected to have personal competence in English and Maths at Level 2. If you do not currently have evidence of achievement at this level, we will support successful appointees to undertake the Adult Literacy and Numeracy qualifications within the first year of working for us.

Medway Adult and Community Learning Service is committed to safeguarding and promotes the welfare of all learners and expects all staff to share this commitment.

Any offer of employment for this post will be subject to an enhanced Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure, satisfactory medical clearance and personal references.

**For an application pack for any of the part-time tutor posts please contact Christine Osborne on 01634 338423 or email [christine.osborne@medway.gov.uk](mailto:christine.osborne@medway.gov.uk)**

**Closing date: 21 August 2009**

### Medway Adult and Community Learning Service Head of Quality and Curriculum Ref: CA0723B

Salary: LNFA 19-23 (£37,239 - £41,414)

Location: Medway

We are looking to recruit an enthusiastic and dynamic individual to lead on quality improvement and curriculum development for MACLS. The post is an exciting and challenging one and will demand an excellent understanding of the role of adult and community learning in the Further Education system.

The post-holder will be responsible for ensuring that the curriculum is planned and developed to meet Service targets; lead effective quality improvement across the Service including the commissioning of staff development and oversee the arrangements for IAG and and Matrix re-accreditation.

The successful candidate will be qualified to degree level or equivalent and hold a management qualification such as DMS together with substantial relevant management experience, up-to-date with developments in the further education environment and the quality standards required by LSC and Ofsted in adult and community learning, an excellent communicator, prepared to work flexibly according to the needs of the Service and able to work at any venue within the Medway area as required.

**For an informal discussion, please contact Sue Hopkins on 01634 338442 or 338439 or email [sue.hopkins@medway.gov.uk](mailto:sue.hopkins@medway.gov.uk) For an application pack or to apply visit [www.medway.gov.uk](http://www.medway.gov.uk) or phone 01634 333333 Mon to Fri 8am-8pm, Sat 9am-1pm or 01634 332843 24-hour answer-phone. Alternatively email [jobs@medway.gov.uk](mailto:jobs@medway.gov.uk) quoting the reference.**

**Closing date: 21 August 2009**

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## Accountancy

### Senior Manager - Accountancy

#### Ashford

**Salary:** Negotiable and Depending on Experience  
An exciting opportunity has arisen within a successful and rapidly expanding Accountancy Practice in Ashford. They are looking to recruit a Senior Manager who can: • Play a key role in providing guidance and training to members of staff. • Act as an ambassador for the firm. • Actively sell within and outside the firm. • Demonstrate a high level of commercial awareness in handling of client matters. Other Responsibilities will include: • Regularly review portfolio to ensure that opportunities to improve client service are maximised. • Briefing the team on client service and budget requirements. • Agreeing scope of work and budget with clients. • Assisting in the Marketing and Networking sometimes required out of hours. • Assisting partners with debt collection. • Becoming first point of contact at a 'higher level' and proactively advise on technical changes and updates. The Ideal Candidate will: - Be ACA or ACCA fully qualified - Have previous experience within an Accountancy Practice - Have previous experience in managing staff within an Accountancy Practice - Experienced in working on and managing audit assessments - Have previous experience in dealing with Corporate and Personal Tax due to some of

the requirements of the role. This rare opportunity would suit an ambitious candidate looking to progress their career. An excellent salary and benefits package is available for the successful individual so apply now for immediate interview. Due to the high volume of applicants applying for all roles, we can only reply to candidates with the most relevant skills and experience. If you have not heard back from us within 48 hours of your application please assume that you have been unsuccessful on this occasion. **To apply/more information:** Bliss Pidduck Morgan Jones Recruitment Consultants  
**Quoting Job Ref:** CA593  
**Tel:** 01227 762233  
**Email:** bliss@morganjones.net

### Finance Office Assistant

#### Kent

**Salary:** £14,891 – £16,663 (PAY AWARD PENDING) • 37 HOURS PERWEEK  
**Closing Date:** Wednesday 2 September 2009  
KCA (UK) is an expanding and vibrant organisation providing a wide range of high quality and innovative specialist services in the drug, alcohol and mental health sectors. As part of our busy finance team, you will assist in the operation and maintenance of the purchase ledger, sales ledger and payroll. You will also provide back-up support for team members as required. Training will be provided and there are excellent opportunities for career progression. We are willing to support the right candidate to

attain a relevant professional qualification. You will need to have good keyboard skills, be numerate and fully computer literate. Previous experience of working in a finance office and knowledge of Microsoft Office and Dynamics Great Plains is desirable but not essential. In addition, you will need to be able to respond to people in a professional manner and have good communication skills. For an informal discussion regarding the role, please contact Ann Colyer, Finance Office Manager on 01795 590795. Application forms and job descriptions can be downloaded from

www.kca.org.uk or call 01795 590635. Interview date: Friday 11 September 2009. KCA (UK) is committed to the principles of equality of opportunity for all and welcomes applications from people with experience of substance use or who have had previous problems with substance misuse. Charity No: 292824.

**To apply/more information:** Ann Colyer  
Finance Office Manager  
KCA (UK)  
**Quoting Job Ref:** 592  
**Tel:** 01795 590795  
**Email:** applications@kosmedia.co.uk

### Administration, Secretarial, PA

#### Weekend Receptionist/ Telephonist

**Tonbridge**  
**Salary:** TBA  
Weekend Receptionist/

Telephonist required for our busy Land Rover Dealership in Tonbridge. Applicants must be of smart appearance, have a mature outlook, be computer literate as well as having excellent communication skills. The hours are Saturday 9am - 5pm and Sunday 10-4pm. Contact Greg Wilcox on **Tel:** 01732 353637 **Fax:** 01732 376000 **E-mail:** gwilcox@harwoods.uk.com to arrange an immediate interview.

**To apply/more information:** Harwoods of Edenbridge  
**Quoting Job Ref:** kos  
**Tel:** 01732 353637  
**Email:** gwilcox@harwoods.uk.com

### Catering, Hospitality

#### Coffeeshop Supervisor

#### Canterbury

**Salary:** TBA  
Required at Canterbury Store, excellent customer service skills & food standards. Staff Management. No late nights. No Sundays.  
**To apply/more information:** Andrea Thorneycroft  
C & H Fabrics  
**Quoting Job Ref:** kos  
**Tel:** 01892 773611  
**Email:** andrea@candhfabrics.co.uk

#### Food Service Assistants

#### Maidstone

**Salary:** TBA  
Requires Food Service Assistants (P/T and Sat). Excellent Customer service skills. No late nights No Sundays.

**To apply/more information:** Andrea Thorneycroft  
C & H Fabrics  
**Quoting Job Ref:** kos  
**Tel:** 01892 773611  
**Email:** andrea@candhfabrics.co.uk

#### Part-time cook

#### Canterbury

**Salary:** TBA  
Littlebourne House Care Home  
Require Part-time cook. Hours - Saturday and Sunday - 07:30-18:30m and 3 afternoons a week - 14:00-18:30 and Activities Co-ordinator Care experience preferred but not essential. Good organisational skills also required to include arranging day trips and activities. Min 25 hours per week. For more information Please call - Maralyn on **Tel:** 01227 721527.

**To apply/more information:** Littlebourne House  
**Quoting Job Ref:** kos  
**Tel:** 01227 721527  
**Email:** applications@kosmedia.co.uk

### Construction, Architecture, Surveyors

#### SITE MANAGER

#### Isle of Sheppey

**Salary:** TBA  
As one of the UK's largest privately owned house builders, Bloor Homes Southern require an immediate start for an experienced and confident SITE MANAGER for our exciting new development in the Isle of Sheppey. We are looking for a proactive and

enthusiastic, highly qualified construction professional with a proven track record of successfully managing a site to join our friendly team. The ideal candidate will have excellent communication skills with a focus on providing a quality service and product. Candidates should ideally live within easy commutable reach of this area. This is a P.A.Y.E employment with a company car supplied Annual holiday is 5 weeks plus statutory Bank Holidays A competitive salary will be paid according to age and experience. 1st interviews to be held in the Isle of Sheppey on 14 August with 2nd interviews being held at our Newbury office on 20 August. All CV's can be submitted to Pete Smith, Construction Director at our Newbury address Fulmar House, Unit 7 Votec Centre, Hambridge Lane Newbury, Berks, RG14 5TN or on the following email: **kerry.hampshire@bloorhomes.com**

**To apply/more information:** JS Bloor Homes  
**Quoting Job Ref:** kos  
**Email:** kerry.hampshire@bloorhomes.com

### Domestic Trades

#### Maintenance Person

#### Medway

**Salary:** £18,491 + Benefits  
A property management company is recruiting for a maintenance person for their site in Medway. 16th Edition or equivalent is essential to

be considered for this role. Full time permanent role starting immediately. Full job specification available from Helen Barrow on 0121 788 2334 or email **Helen@orchardoakrecruitment.co.uk** Orchard Oak Recruitment is a recruitment agency acting on behalf of this client.  
**To apply/more information:** Orchard Oak Recruitment  
**Quoting Job Ref:** kos  
**Tel:** 0121 788 2334  
**Email:** Helen@orchardoakrecruitment.co.uk

### Education, Teacher, School

#### Learning Mentor

#### Ramsgate

**Salary:** 14-16K Pro Rata  
**Closing Date:** 01/09/09  
Our client has an excellent opportunity for a dedicated, emotionally literate Learning Mentor who is willing to learn. Our client is a forward thinking and innovative school looking for a Learning Mentor to join their team and work within the 6th form. Duties will include: Supporting students in completing their study work Providing support within classrooms for those who need it Carrying out progress reports Providing individual support where necessary Successful applicants will be subject to an Enhanced CRB Check. They are looking for people who are able to take initiative but also work well as part of a team. In return a good salary and an interesting and varied career is on offer. Due to the high volume of applicants applying for all

roles, we can only reply to candidates with the most relevant skills and experience. If you have not heard back from us within 48 hours of your application please assume that you have been unsuccessful on this occasion.  
**To apply/more information:** Anna Wiget  
Morgan Jones Recruitment Consultants  
**Quoting Job Ref:** MJ999  
**Tel:** 01843604890  
**Email:** anna@morganjones.net

#### Lecturer in Sport

#### Medway

**Salary:** £20,700 - £29,622 per annum/pro rata  
**Closing Date:** Friday 21 August 2009  
Full time and part time positions available. The College is looking for passionate and enthusiastic professionals to join the Sports team to teach, assess and participate in the development of Sports programmes. The successful candidates will hold at least a level three qualification and have some teaching/training experience along side industrial expertise. They must hold or be willing to work towards a recognised teaching qualification. Previous applicants need not apply. Application forms and further details are available from **www.midkent.ac.uk**. Alternatively, please e-mail **job.applications@midkent.ac.uk**. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 884402 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.

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Email job.applications@midkent.ac.uk

### Part Time Tutors

#### Medway

**Salary:** £19.49 - £24.99 per hour

**Closing Date:** 21 August 2009

Part Time Tutors Salary: LNFA 1-3 (£19.49 - £24.99 per hour) Japanese Tutor Ref CA0724E To teach classes at beginners or elementary levels. Family Literacy and Numeracy Tutor Ref CA0725E To plan and deliver literacy and numeracy courses to parents and carers in schools and community venues. Skills for Life Literacy Ref CA0726E 18.5 hours per week Skills for Life Numeracy Ref CA0727E 18.5 hours per week We are recruiting for enthusiastic and committed Skills for Life tutors to teach across all levels from Entry Level 3 to Level 2. Delivery will take place in a range of settings including Train to Gain, family literacy/ numeracy, Fast Track to Level 2 and community projects. For all part-time tutor posts you need to be qualified or highly skilled in the subject specialism, qualified to teach adults. If you do not hold a Cert Ed, DTLLS or PTLLS, you must be prepared to start on a training course at the first available opportunity within your employment and definitely within the first year, a good communicator able to negotiate and support personalised learning within a group learning environment, prepared to work flexibly according to the needs of the Service and the learner to ensure that the course is fully delivered and able to work at any venue within the Medway area as required Medway Adult and Community Learning Service is committed to the National Skills for Life Strategy and operates a whole organisation approach to it. All staff are expected to have personal competence in English and Maths at Level 2. If you do not currently have evidence of achievement at this level, we will support successful appointees to undertake the Adult Literacy and Numeracy qualifications within the first year of working for us. Medway Adult and Community Learning Service is committed to safeguarding and promotes the welfare of all learners and expects all staff to share this commitment. Any offer of employment for this post will be subject to an enhanced Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure, satisfactory medical clearance and personal references. For an application pack for any of the part-time tutor posts please contact Christine Osborne on 01634 338423 or email christine.osborne@medway.gov.uk

**To apply/more information:**  
Medway Council  
Quoting Job Ref: CA0726E & CA0727E  
Tel: 01634 338423  
Email christine.osborne@medway.gov.uk

### Head of Quality and Curriculum

#### Medway

**Salary:** £37,239 - £41,414

**Closing Date:** 21 August 2009

Medway Adult and Community Learning Service Head of Quality and Curriculum Ref: CA0723B Salary: LNFA 19-23 (£37,239 - £41,414) Location: Medway We are looking to recruit an enthusiastic and dynamic individual to lead on quality improvement and curriculum development for MACLS. The post is an exciting and challenging one and will demand an excellent understanding of the role of adult and community learning in the Further Education system. The post-holder will be responsible for ensuring that the curriculum is planned and developed to meet Service targets; lead effective quality improvement across the Service including the commissioning of staff development and oversee the arrangements for IAG and and Matrix re-accreditation. The successful candidate will be qualified to degree level or equivalent and hold a management qualification such as DMS together with substantial relevant management experience, up-to-date with developments in the further education environment and the quality standards required by LSC and Ofsted in adult and community learning, an excellent communicator, prepared to work flexibly according to the needs of the Service and able to work at any venue within the Medway area as required. For an informal discussion, please contact Sue Hopkins on 01634 338442 or 338439 or email sue.hopkins@medway.gov.uk For an application pack or to apply visit www.medway.gov.uk or phone 01634 333333 Mon to Fri 8am-8pm, Sat 9am-1pm or 01634 332843 24-hour answerphone. Alternatively email jobs@medway.gov.uk quoting the reference.

**To apply/more information:**  
Medway Council  
Quoting Job Ref: CA0723B  
Tel: 01634 333333  
Email jobs@medway.gov.uk

### Trainer

#### Folkestone

**Salary:** TBA

**Closing Date:** Monday 17th August 2009

In partnership with The Dover, Deal and Sandwich 14-19 Planning Forum, South Kent College is seeking to appoint the following to work within the new Dover Construction Skills Centre in Whitfield, which is to open in September 2009: Trainer (Fixed-term until 31/07/2011) Variable Hours Ref: T1395 You will deliver a co-ordinated, integrated construction craft programme to students between entry level and level 2. You will be qualified to C&G Craft, NVQ Level 2 or equivalent in Bricklaying, Painting and Decorating or Carpentry and Joinery, and have or be committed to obtaining a teaching qualification and A1 Award or equivalent. Recent and relevant industrial experience in general building work is essential as well as excellent

communication skills and a commitment to student success. The closing date for applications is 5pm on Monday 17th August 2009. Interviews will be held Monday 24th August 2009 at South Kent College, Shorncliffe Road, Folkestone. For further information or an application pack please contact the Human Resources Department on 0845 207 8222 (24 hour answerphone), email: humanresources@southkent.ac.uk or visit www.southkent.ac.uk All posts are subject to a disclosure check by the Criminal Records Bureau. We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expect all employees to share this commitment. Applications are welcome from suitably qualified candidates regardless of ethnicity, gender, age, disability, sexuality or religion.

**To apply/more information:**  
South Kent College  
Quoting Job Ref: T1395  
Tel: 0845 207 8222  
Email humanresources@southkent.ac.uk

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01303 817040

### Additional Educational Needs HLTA

#### Gravesend

**Salary:** £18,471 - £20,262 (pro-rata)

**Closing Date:** 02 September 2009

KS6 Pts 17-20 £18,471 - £20,262 (pro-rata) 37 hours per week / Term Time Only + 5 days (39 weeks). We are seeking an experienced HLTA to join our AEN team. Applicants will need to have experience of working with small groups of children and relevant qualifications would be beneficial. This post also includes an administrative role within the AEN department for which good IT skills will be required. Saint George's C of E School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. All appointments are subject to List 99 and enhanced CRB checks. Contact us to request further details and an application form. Meadow Road, Gravesend, Kent DA11 7LS Tel: 01474 533082 Fax: 01474 561536 Email dhariwal@saintgeorgescofe.kent.sch.uk or visit our website www.saintgeorgescofe.kent.sch.uk

**To apply/more information:**  
St George's CoE School  
Quoting Job Ref: kos  
Email dhariwal@saintgeorgescofe.kent.sch.uk

### One to One Project Manager

West Malling

**Salary:** £10 - £12 per hour Our local authority client is looking for a committed and enthusiastic person who will be able to assist the 'One to One Tuition Initiative' via successful project management and effective service delivery. It is essential that this project continues to be managed effectively in order to maintain Advisory Service Kent's excellent reputation in rolling out new initiatives and to retain funding. Responsibilities: • Liaise with senior advisers • Maintain an implementation plan for one to one tuition • Organise agendas, briefing notes and minutes for the one to one steering group • Develop a system of Quality Assurance to monitor the success of the scheme • Undertake school visits to gather feedback from the schools on how they are implementing the one to one tuition programme and review their opinions • Undertake agreed research activities and projects, including preparation of documentation, drafting consultations, and the analysis of information, data, monitoring and evaluation • Evaluate lessons learned on a regular basis drawing out recommendations • Develop a communication strategy policy • Help develop web pages to support the one to one project to an agreed timetable • Assist in recruitment of tutors liaising with the School's Personnel Service • Develop a comprehensive training plan for tutors • Maintain a database of one to one allocations and progress made by pupils • Communicate with schools through web pages, email, telephone and letters as appropriate. This exciting and varied role is to start on 1st September and is an on-going long term contract. A driving licence and regular access to your own vehicle is essential due to the rural location of the offices. Online Word, Excel, Spelling and Grammar tests will need to be performed before we are able to submit your CV. Due to the high volume of applicants applying for all roles, we can only reply to candidates with the most relevant skills and experience. If you have not heard back from us within 48 hours of your application please assume that you have been unsuccessful on this occasion. Due to the high volume of applicants applying for all roles, we can only reply to candidates with the most relevant skills and experience. If you have not heard back from us within 48 hours of your application please assume that you have been unsuccessful on this occasion.

**To apply/more information:**  
Clare Morris  
Morgan Jones Recruitment Consultants  
Quoting Job Ref: kos  
Tel: 01227 762233  
Email clare@morganjones.net

### Lecturer in Sport

#### Tonbridge

**Salary:** £11,763 - £16,172

**Closing Date:** 12noon on 27th August 2009

Part-time Lecturer in Sport 0.5 fte, 18.Hrs, £11,763 -

£16,172 Tonbridge, Kent Do you have what it takes to engage and inspire young people through sport? You will need to be enthusiastic and passionate about your subject for sure. But you will also need to be a great communicator who can support every one of your students to achieve their goals. Joining a progressive, growing and ambitious lecturing team, you will teach on courses at a range of levels as you deliver an exceptional learning experience. An appropriate professional background and qualifications are essential, while FE lecturing experience would be ideal. You can look forward to full support to develop your skills and career - as well as an excellent benefits package including generous annual leave, final salary pension, flexible working options and private health plan. To find out more, view our full list of opportunities and apply online, visit www.wkc.ac.uk Alternatively call 01732 376511 or email hr-dept@wkc.ac.uk

**To apply/more information:**  
West Kent College  
Quoting Job Ref: KOS09  
Tel: 01732 376511  
Email hr-dept@wkc.ac.uk

### Lecturer in Foundation Learning

#### Medway

**Salary:** £25,895 - £29,622 per annum

**Closing Date:** Friday 28 August 2009

We are looking to recruit an outstanding individual to teach and participate in the development of the Life and Work Skills for learners with learning difficulties and/or disabilities. The successful candidate will have good communication skills, a patient and mature attitude and hold or be willing to work towards a recognised teaching qualification. Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 884402 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number. MidKent College is an equal opportunities employer.

**To apply/more information:**  
Mid Kent College  
Quoting Job Ref: P0567  
Tel: 01634 884402  
Email job.applications@midkent.ac.uk

### Assessor/Reviewing Officer

#### Medway

**Salary:** £20,368 - £26,255

**Closing Date:** Friday 28 August 2009

MKC offers Apprenticeship frameworks and is responding to employer training needs for on-site assessment. We are therefore looking to appoint a qualified, experienced Assessor/Reviewing Officer in Engineering, for Plumbing and Heating. The successful candidate will be highly motivated and able to assess

trainees on NVQ qualifications including, 'Train to Gain' learners within our successful Engineering and Plumbing department's. A relevant craft qualification is essential and the successful candidate will have or be willing to work towards Assessor/Verifier and H&S qualifications. Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 884402 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number. MidKent College is an equal opportunities employer

**To apply/more information:**  
Mid Kent College  
Quoting Job Ref: P0586  
Tel: 01634 884402  
Email job.applications@midkent.ac.uk

### Engineering, Manufacturing, Utilities

### Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Engineer

#### Whitstable

**Salary:** 23-25K Plus OT

**Closing Date:** 01/09/09

Our client is an established firm based in Whitstable seeking an experienced Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Engineer. The chosen candidate will ideally have the following: • City and Guilds in Refrigeration, Refrigerant Safe Handling & AirConditioning OR BTEC • Previous environmental service experience essential • Excellent customer service skills • Self starter, ability to effective plan, organise, and manage time effectively • Valid driving license. Your main duties will include responding to all assigned service calls while on duty. There will also be a large amount of after hours and weekend work, often required at short notice. In return a competitive salary, Over time and supportive working environment is on offer. Please contact us today to find out more. Due to the high volume of applicants applying for all roles, we can only reply to candidates with the most relevant skills and experience. If you have not heard back from us within 48 hours of your application please assume that you have been unsuccessful on this occasion.

**To apply/more information:**  
Anna Wiget  
Morgan Jones Recruitment Consultants  
Quoting Job Ref: MJ982  
Tel: 01843604890  
Email anna@morganjones.net

### Manufacturing Assistant

#### Sandwich

**Salary:** £6.00 - £8.00 per hour

Our client, based in Sandwich, is looking for two willing and flexible Manufacturing Assistants to start at the beginning of September. • You will be required to safely and

successfully operate machinery used to manufacture one of this Company's many products. • Follow and accurately complete manufacturing batch records. • Competently run and maintain the Companies machinery. The ideal candidate will have worked within a Manufacturing environment, will have a can-do attitude and will be available immediately. Any Pharmaceutical or manufacturing experience under GMP conditions would also be advantageous. Both vacancies are contracts until December 2009. Great rates of pay available! Apply now for immediate consideration and more details! Due to the high volume of applicants applying for all roles, we can only reply to candidates with the most relevant skills and experience. If you have not heard back from us within 48 hours of your application please assume that you have been unsuccessful on this occasion.

**To apply/more information:**  
Clare Morris  
Morgan Jones Recruitment Consultants  
Quoting Job Ref: kos  
Tel: 01227 762233  
Email clare@morganjones.net

100s

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### Estate Agency, Property

### Estate Agent - MJ961

#### Margate

**Salary:** Negotiable

**Closing Date:** 01/09/09

We have an opportunity for an experienced, tenacious and hard working candidate to work for an established Estate Agent in East Kent. The successful candidate will need to be able to demonstrate the following: • Be target orientated • Able to work on own initiative In return our client is offering a position within an established agency, rewarding salary package with the possibility of progression for the right candidate. Due to the high volume of applicants applying for all roles, we can only reply to candidates with the most relevant skills and experience. If you have not heard back from us within 48 hours of your application please assume that you have been unsuccessful on this occasion.

**To apply/more information:**  
Anna Wiget  
Morgan Jones Recruitment Consultants  
Quoting Job Ref: MJ961  
Tel: 01843604890  
Email anna@morganjones.net

### Sales Negotiators

#### Kent

**Salary:** TBA  
OPPORTUNITIES IN KENT/SURREY/SUSSEX AREAS

• Sales Negotiators • Lettings Negotiators • Property Managers • Mortgage Consultants Are you keen and ambitious? Looking for a career with a professional company? Are you dedicated to providing a top class memorable service and want to stand out in a crowd? Have you got what it takes to be one of tomorrows' managers? Connells are looking for quality people to join our fast expanding team that is one of the most successful Company's around. Excellent Remuneration Package Offered. Interested? Apply in writing to: ynes.anderson@connells.co.uk Or send your CV with covering letter to: Ynés Anderson, Connells, 30 High Street, Horley, Surrey RH6 7BB.

**To apply/more information:**  
Connells

Quoting Job Ref: kos

Email ynes.anderson@connells.co.uk

### Lettings Negotiators

#### Kent

**Salary:** TBA

OPPORTUNITIES IN KENT/SURREY/SUSSEX AREAS

• Sales Negotiators • Lettings Negotiators • Property Managers • Mortgage Consultants Are you keen and ambitious? Looking for a career with a professional company? Are you dedicated to providing a top class memorable service and want to stand out in a crowd? Have you got what it takes to be one of tomorrows' managers? Connells are looking for quality people to join our fast expanding team that is one of the most successful Company's around. Excellent Remuneration Package Offered. Interested? Apply in writing to: ynes.anderson@connells.co.uk Or send your CV with covering letter to: Ynés Anderson, Connells, 30 High Street, Horley, Surrey RH6 7BB.

**To apply/more information:**  
Connells

Quoting Job Ref: kos

Email ynes.anderson@connells.co.uk

### Property Managers

#### Kent

**Salary:** TBA

OPPORTUNITIES IN KENT/SURREY/SUSSEX AREAS

• Sales Negotiators • Lettings Negotiators • Property Managers • Mortgage Consultants Are you keen and ambitious? Looking for a career with a professional company? Are you dedicated to providing a top class memorable service and want to stand out in a crowd? Have you got what it takes to be one of tomorrows' managers? Connells are looking for quality people to join our fast expanding team that is one of the most successful Company's around. Excellent Remuneration Package Offered. Interested? Apply in writing to: ynes.anderson@connells.co.uk Or send your CV with covering letter to: Ynés Anderson, Connells, 30 High Street, Horley, Surrey RH6 7BB.

**To apply/more information:**  
Connells

Quoting Job Ref: kos

Email ynes.anderson@connells.co.uk





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## Mortgage Consultants

### Kent

**Salary:** TBA  
OPPORTUNITIES IN KENT/SURREY/SUSSEX AREAS  
• Sales Negotiators • Lettings Negotiators • Property Managers • Mortgage Consultants Are you keen and ambitious? Looking for a career with a professional company? Are you dedicated to providing a top class memorable service and want to stand out in a crowd? Have you got what it takes to be one of tomorrow's managers? Connells are looking for quality people to join our fast expanding team that is one of the most successful Company's around. Excellent Remuneration Package Offered. Interested? Apply in writing to: ynes.anderson@connells.co.uk Or send your CV with covering letter to: Ynés Anderson, Connells, 30 High Street, Horley, Surrey RH6 7BB.

**To apply/more information:** Connells

**Quoting Job Ref:** kos  
Email ynes.anderson@connells.co.uk

## Industrial, Warehouse, Factory

### Versatile Staff

#### Chatham

**Salary:** TBA  
Kent Space Lordswood, Chatham Immediately requires : Versatile person for Full time position which includes : Van & Fork Lift Driving, Maintenance and cleaning duties Occasional reception support. CVs please to: personnel@kentspace.co.uk

**To apply/more information:** Kent Space

**Quoting Job Ref:** kos

Email personnel@kentspace.co.uk

## WAREHOUSE ASSISTANT

### Maidstone

**Salary:** £5.73 per hour  
**Closing Date:** 24th August 2009  
WAREHOUSE ASSISTANT Maidstone, from £5.73 per hour dependant on experience Established in 1984, we are Kent's largest independent motor components distributor covering SE London and Kent from our six depots. Our Maidstone Branch is seeking a hard working and enthusiastic individual to pick items for delivery and help with other warehouse duties. You will need to have experience in a busy warehouse environment, be willing to work Saturdays and be able to check parts accurately against order notes. To apply, please forward your CV to humanresources@scmf.co.uk, or alternatively call 0208 308 6812 for an application form. WE ARE AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYER.

**To apply/more information:** SC Motor Factors Ltd

**Quoting Job Ref:** kos

Tel: 0208 308 6812  
Email humanresources@scmf.co.uk

## Information Tech, Internet, Telecoms

### ICT Technical I.L.T Support Engineer

#### Medway

**Salary:** £18,433 - £23,640 per annum  
**Closing Date:** Friday 21 August 2009  
ICT Technical I.L.T Support Engineer Ref: P0653 **Salary:** £18,433 - £23,640 per annum The College is looking for passionate and enthusiastic professionals to join the Sports team to teach, assess and participate in the development of Sports programmes. The successful candidates will hold at least a level three qualification and have some teaching/training experience along side industrial expertise. They must hold or be willing to work towards a recognised teaching qualification.

Previous applicants need not apply. Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 884402 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.

**To apply/more information:** Mid Kent College

**Quoting Job Ref:** P0653

Tel: 01634 884402  
Email job.applications@midkent.ac.uk

### Web Developer - Temporary to Permanent

#### Canterbury

**Salary:** £ Dependent on experience  
Our client is currently looking for an experienced Web Developer to join their successful team based on the outskirts of Canterbury. The successful candidate will be working on new and existing projects on behalf of clients from various industries. You will need to have knowledge and experience of the following: • Microsoft ASP.Net 2.0 • SQL, XHTML, HTML, CSS • CMS including Joomla • Flash/ Flex (experience with ActionScript 2 would be beneficial) The role will initially start on a temporary basis for 4-6 weeks with a view to going permanent so the ability to start immediately or within a period of 1 week is essential. This is a great opportunity to become part of a successful and friendly team of people so please apply now with your CV for immediate consideration and further details. Due to the high volume of applicants applying for all roles, we can only reply to candidates with the most relevant skills and experience. If you have not heard back from us within 48 hours of your application please assume that you have been unsuccessful on this occasion.

**To apply/more information:** Clare Morris

Morgan Jones Recruitment Consultants

**Quoting Job Ref:** kos

Tel: 01227 762233  
Email clare@morganjones.net

## Computer Support Assistant

### Canterbury

**Salary:** £7.00 - £8.50 per hour  
Our central Canterbury based client is looking for a 2nd Line Support Assistant to start with them immediately. Extensive experience is not required but a background or intermediate knowledge of Computer Support is essential. This is a temporary role until the middle of October and is a great opportunity to gain experience with an established Company. Please apply now with a CV for immediate consideration and a full job description.

**To apply/more information:** Clare Morris

Morgan Jones Recruitment Consultants

**Quoting Job Ref:** kos

Tel: 01227 762233  
Email clare@morganjones.net

of applicants applying for all roles, we can only reply to candidates with the most relevant skills and experience. If you have not heard back from us within 48 hours of your application please assume that you have been unsuccessful on this occasion.

**To apply/more information:** Anna Wiget

Morgan Jones Recruitment Consultants

**Quoting Job Ref:** MJ978

Tel: 01843604890  
Email anna@morganjones.net

## Leisure, Tourism, Travel

### Customer Service Agents

#### Kent

**Salary:** £13,819  
Serving thousands of customers every day and operating throughout South East London and Kent, as well as in parts of East Sussex, here at Southeastern every day brings something new. This is your opportunity to join us at the front-line. Often the first face of the business that our customers see, you'll assist commuters and leisure travellers alike - and you'll do it with a warm and welcoming approach. Dealing with queries, making announcements, carrying out safety and security duties and taking responsibility for passenger safety - all are aspects of entry level roles that offer lots of variety, excellent benefits and real scope for development within the rail industry. If you're proactive with excellent communication and customer care skills, enjoy helping people and are happy to work shifts that include early starts and late finishes, you could soon be enjoying a competitive salary, pension scheme and free travel on Southeastern, London Midland and Southern rail services. Salaries start at £13,819. After a qualifying period, you will also get reduced rate rail travel on other train operators, including European travel. For an application pack, please email careers@southeasternrailway.co.uk www.southeasternrailway.co.uk

**To apply/more information:** South Eastern Railway

**Quoting Job Ref:** kos

Email careers@southeasternrailway.co.uk

### 2 Motor Insurance Sales Executives - Urgently Required

#### Tunbridge Wells

**Salary:** 12-16K and Excellent Commission  
**Closing Date:** 01/09/09  
Our client is a specialist insurance broker offering many different motor insurance solutions for companies throughout the UK. They are looking for 2 Motor Insurance Sales individuals to join there team. The successful candidates must be able to demonstrate the following: \*Previous motor insurance sales expertise \*Excellent communications skills and attention to detail \*Strong accounts management skills You will be required to provide support to retail clients to ensure the conversion of new business as well as the management of existing accounts and ensure that renewals are kept on board with the company. All of this will need to be done to achieve company targets. Duties will include the following: \*Responding to all enquiries from clients, brokers and underwriters \*Ensure clients are aware of suitable additional covers available \*Identifying clients requirements and ensuring that they are met \*Ensuring all documents are correct and up to date \*Other duties and responsibilities required by MD This list is not exhaustive. In return an excellent working environment, ongoing support and training and a competitive salary and commission is on offer. Due to the high volume

### Experienced Waitstaff

#### Ramsgate

**Salary:** TBA  
WANTED Experienced Waitstaff for Ramsgate's newest and best restaurant. Please call: 01843 851515

**To apply/more information:** Age & Sons

**Quoting Job Ref:** kos

Tel: 01843 851515  
Email harrietteleigh@gmail.com

## Motor Trade, Driver

### SERVICE ADVISOR

#### Canterbury

**Salary:** TBA  
Baileys Nissan Canterbury

require a SERVICE ADVISOR Previous experience essential. Pleasant, helpful personality is also essential. Please contact David Jackson, Service Manager on 01227 766777 BAILEYS CANTERBURY WESTMINSTER ROAD, VAUXHALL INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, CANTERBURY, KENT CT1 1YY TEL: 01227 766777 e-mail: david.jackson@baileysnissan.co.uk www.baileysnissan.co.uk

**To apply/more information:** Baileys Nissan

**Quoting Job Ref:** kos

Tel: 01227 766777

Email david.jackson@baileysnissan.co.uk

## Nursing, Medicine, Care Work

### Nurses and Carers

#### Canterbury

**Salary:** TBA  
NICHOLAS JAMES CARE HOMES Ltd Dale Road Southfleet Kent DA13 9NX Registered Nurses, Carers, Domestic Staff required by the above company for homes in the Canterbury, Whitstable, Herne Bay area. For further details please contact: Eileen Laherty Group Manager Email: eileen.laherty@njch.co.uk Mob: 07970051698

**To apply/more information:** Nicholas James Care Homes Ltd

**Quoting Job Ref:** kos

Tel: 07970051698

Email eileen.laherty@njch.co.uk

### Domestic Staff

#### Canterbury

**Salary:** TBA  
NICHOLAS JAMES CARE HOMES Ltd Dale Road Southfleet Kent DA13 9NX Registered Nurses, Carers, Domestic Staff required by the above company for homes in the Canterbury, Whitstable, Herne Bay area. For further details please contact: Eileen Laherty Group Manager Email: eileen.laherty@njch.co.uk Mob: 07970051698

**To apply/more information:** Nicholas James Care Homes Ltd

**Quoting Job Ref:** kos

Tel: 07970051698

Email eileen.laherty@njch.co.uk

### SENIOR SUPPORT WORKERS

#### Isle of Sheppey

**Salary:** Salary from £15,250  
Is this the job for you? ACH is a fast-growing organisation, developing new, high-quality residential homes for adults with Learning Disabilities. Due to our continued growth we now require for our new homes in BOBBING & ISLE OF SHEPPEY the following staff to complement our team: SENIOR SUPPORT WORKERS Salary from £15,250 SUPPORT WORKERS Salary £13,250 NIGHT SUPPORT WORKERS Salary £13,250 • 35 hours per week We also require BANK WORKERS For an application pack please visit our website at www.achuk.com Alternatively e-mail michelle.jenkins@achuk.com or contact Human Resources on 0208 502 8841.

**To apply/more information:** ACH Care Homes Ltd  
**Quoting Job Ref:** kos  
Tel: 0208 502 8841  
Email michelle.jenkins@achuk.com

### SUPPORT WORKERS

#### Isle of Sheppey

**Salary:** £13,250 pa  
Is this the job for you? ACH is a fast-growing organisation, developing new, high-quality residential homes for adults with Learning Disabilities. Due to our continued growth we now require for our new homes in BOBBING & ISLE OF SHEPPEY the following staff to complement our team: SENIOR SUPPORT WORKERS Salary from £15,250 SUPPORT WORKERS Salary £13,250 NIGHT SUPPORT WORKERS Salary £13,250 • 35 hours per week We also require BANK WORKERS For an application pack please visit our website at www.achuk.com Alternatively e-mail michelle.jenkins@achuk.com or contact Human Resources on 0208 502 8841.

**To apply/more information:** ACH Care Homes Ltd

**Quoting Job Ref:** kos

Tel: 0208 502 8841

Email michelle.jenkins@achuk.com

### NIGHT SUPPORT WORKERS

#### Isle of Sheppey

**Salary:** £13,250  
Is this the job for you? ACH is a fast-growing organisation, developing new, high-quality residential homes for adults with Learning Disabilities. Due to our continued growth we now require for our new homes in BOBBING & ISLE OF SHEPPEY the following staff to complement our team: SENIOR SUPPORT WORKERS Salary from £15,250 SUPPORT WORKERS Salary £13,250 NIGHT SUPPORT WORKERS Salary £13,250 • 35 hours per week We also require BANK WORKERS For an application pack please visit our website at www.achuk.com Alternatively e-mail michelle.jenkins@achuk.com or contact Human Resources on 0208 502 8841.

**To apply/more information:** ACH Care Homes Ltd

**Quoting Job Ref:** kos

Tel: 0208 502 8841

Email michelle.jenkins@achuk.com

### BANK WORKERS

#### Isle of Sheppey

**Salary:** TBA  
Is this the job for you? ACH is a fast-growing organisation, developing new, high-quality residential homes for adults with Learning Disabilities. Due to our continued growth we now require for our new homes in BOBBING & ISLE OF SHEPPEY the following staff to complement our team: SENIOR SUPPORT WORKERS Salary from £15,250 SUPPORT WORKERS Salary £13,250 NIGHT SUPPORT WORKERS Salary £13,250 • 35 hours per week We also require BANK WORKERS For an application pack please visit our website at www.achuk.com Alternatively e-mail michelle.jenkins@achuk.com or contact Human Resources on 0208 502 8841.

**To apply/more information:** ACH Care Homes Ltd

**Quoting Job Ref:** kos

Tel: 0208 502 8841

Email michelle.jenkins@achuk.com

### Registered Nurse

#### Romney Marsh

**Salary:** TBA  
Required for 3 nights per week to join our team in a stimulating and rewarding environment, caring for adults with a physical disability. For more information and application forms please telephone: 01303 872289. All applicants will be required to complete a Criminal Records Bureau check.  
**To apply/more information:** Bethany Lodge/Bethany House

**Quoting Job Ref:** kos

Tel: 01303 872289

Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

### Care Assistant/ Night Care Assistant

#### Sandwich

**Salary:** TBA  
2/3 days per week.  
**To apply/more information:** Upton House

**Quoting Job Ref:** kos

Tel: 01304 611312

Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

### Community Drug Workers

#### Kent

**Salary:** £21,306 – £27,573 + ESSENTIAL CAR USER ALLOWANCE OF UP TO £1,170

**Closing Date:** 21 August 2009

KCA (UK) is an expanding and vibrant organisation providing a wide range of high quality and innovative specialist services in the drug, alcohol and mental health sectors. Could you help chaotic injecting drug users to stabilise their use and begin shaping better lifestyles? It is a big challenge that will see you work closely with medical staff as you deliver assessment and key worker support to people accessing the substitute prescribing service. Significant experience of working with individuals with drug related problems is desirable, along with a qualification to diploma level in a relevant area - nursing, counselling or social work for example. As for your future, there is the opportunity to make a huge impact on people's lives and help grow our services into the future working as part of a multi-disciplinary team. Application forms and job descriptions can be downloaded from www.kca.org.uk or call 01795 590635. Please quote reference. Interview date: 2 September 2009 in Maidstone.

**To apply/more information:** KCA (UK)

**Quoting Job Ref:** 589

Tel: 01795 590635

Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

**To apply/more information:** KCA (UK)

**Quoting Job Ref:** 589

Tel: 01795 590635

Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

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## Experienced RGN

### Maidstone

**Salary:** TBA  
Poplars Nursing Home Require an Experienced RGN for night duty & RGN for day duty For an application pack Please contact Philippa or Marion on 01622 752872.  
**To apply/more information:** The Poplars Nursing Home

**Quoting Job Ref:** kos

Tel: 01622 752872

Email applications@kosmedia.co.uk

### Activities Co-ordinator

#### Canterbury

**Salary:** TBA  
Littlebourne House Care Home Require Part-time cook Hours - Saturday and Sunday - 07:30-18:30m and 3 afternoons a week - 14:00-18:30 and Activities Co-ordinator Care experience preferred but not essential. Good organisational skills also required to include arranging day trips and activities. Min 25 hours per week. For more information Please call - Maralyn on Tel: 01227 721527.

**To apply/more information:** Littlebourne House

**Quoting Job Ref:** kos

Tel: 01227 721527

Email applications@kosmedia.co.uk

## Retail, Wholesale, Sales

### TELESALES

#### Margate

**Salary:** £300-£500pw  
TELESALES £300-£500pw and more! NO EXPERIENCE? FULL TRAINING PROVIDED!! Experienced Telesales up to £800pw and more! Basic plus bonus plus commission. Rapidly expanding company based in Margate seeks positive and self-motivated individuals to sell our unique award-winning products to UK businesses over the phone. Mon-Fri, 09.00 - 17.00 only Contact James on 020 7482 8895 or by e-mail with cv at info@cciglobal.eu.

**To apply/more information:** CCI

**Quoting Job Ref:** kos

Tel: 020 7482 8895

Email info@cciglobal.eu

### Sales Consultants

#### Dartford

**Salary:** TBA  
2 x full time and 2 x part time Sales Consultants required to work in one of UK's luxury jewellery Boutiques opening soon in The Bluewater Shopping Centre. Candidates must have experience with in the luxury retail sector and jewellery experience advantageous. Excellent rates of pay & commission please call Jo on 07511 551799 or alternatively forward your CV to jo@weneedsomebody.co.uk  
**To apply/more information:** Somebody Recruitment

**Quoting Job Ref:** kos

Tel: 07511551799

Email jo@weneedsomebody.co.uk



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### The Insolvency Rules 1986 E.A. CASTLE & SON LIMITED (In Liquidation) Company No. 00466020

Notice is hereby given to all known unsecured Creditors pursuant to Rule 11.2 of the Insolvency Rules 1986, that the last date for proving debts against the above company is 7 September 2009 by which date claims must be sent to the under-signed, David Elliott of Moore Stephens LLP, Victory House, Quayside, Chatham Maritime, Kent, ME4 4QU, the liquidator of the said company.

Notice is further given that the liquidator intends to declare a first and final dividend to all known unsecured creditors within four months of the last date for proving. Should you fail to submit your claim by 7 September 2009 you will be excluded from the benefit of any dividend.  
Dated: 7 August 2009  
David Elliott, Liquidator

### BESPOKE ENVELOPES LIMITED (Company Number 03279835)

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a meeting of the creditors of the above-named Company will be held at Tenon Recovery, Sherlock House, 73 Baker Street, London W1U 6RD, on 25 August 2009, at 11.30 am for the purposes mentioned in Sections 99, 100 and 101 of the said Act. Creditors wishing to vote at the Meeting must lodge their proxy, together with a full statement of account at the registered office - Sherlock House, 73 Baker Street, London W1U 6RD not later than 12.00 noon on the day prior to the meeting. For the purposes of voting, a secured Creditor is required (unless he surrenders his security) to lodge at the above address, before the Meeting, a statement giving particulars of his security, the date when it was given and the value at which it is assessed. A list of the names and addresses of the Company's creditors will be available for inspection, free of charge, at the above address, between 10.00 am and 4.00 pm on the two business days prior to meeting. The resolutions at the creditors' meeting may include a resolution specifying the terms on which the liquidator is to be remunerated. The meeting may receive information about, or be asked to approve, the costs of preparing the statement of affairs and convening the meeting.  
By Order of the Board  
Gary Butters, Director

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### Kent and Essex Sea Fisheries Committee Notice of Application for Confirmation of Byelaws

Sea Fisheries Regulation Act 1966  
Sea Fisheries (Byelaws) Regulations 1985

The Committee is seeking confirmation of changes to two existing byelaws:

**Cockle Fishery Limitation on Quantities of Cockles that may be Removed** - It is intended to include a provision to halve the daily catch which can be taken from certain areas, following a specified consultation process.

**Minimum Fish sizes** - It is intended to include a minimum size for scallops of 11cm.

The Committee also seeks confirmation of one new byelaw:

**Dredging for Scallops** - It is intended to limit vessels to 12 spring dredges each not exceeding 85cm.

Copies of the byelaws in full may be inspected at, or obtained free of charge from the address stated below or e-mail: taylor-joan@btconnect.com.

Any person who wishes to object to the confirmation of the above byelaw must send a statement of his objection in writing to the Minister for the Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, c/o Area 2C, Nobel House, 17 Smith Square, London, SW1P 3JR within 28 days of the publication of this notice and must send a copy of the statement of objection to the Clerk of the Committee of the Kent and Essex Sea Fisheries Committee.

Dated this day of 10 August 2009

Mr P Sass, Clerk, Kent and Essex Sea Fisheries Committee,  
Paragon House, Albert Street, Ramsgate, Kent, CT11 9HD

### KENT COUNTY COUNCIL FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS Local Government Act 2000

1. As required by the Local Government Act 2000, each month Kent County Council publishes a Forward Plan of key decisions expected to be taken during the following four calendar months. The definition of a key decision is "an executive decision which is likely to:

- (a) result in the local authority incurring expenditure which is, or in the making of savings which are, significant having regard to the local authority's budget for the service or function to which the decision relates, (the current figure which applies to this is unbudgeted savings or expenditure of £1m.
- (b) be significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards or electoral division in the area of the local authority."

2. Each Forward Plan contains a list of documents that will be submitted to the decision-makers for consideration in relation to the decisions to be made. Subject to any prohibition or restriction on their disclosure, copies of, or extracts from, any document listed in the Forward Plan are available, together with any other relevant documents, from the person named in the appropriate Forward Plan entry. The dates for publication of this plan during the next 12 months are:

Monday 4 January to 30 April 2010	Thursday 1 July to 29 October 2010
Monday 1 February to 28 May 2010	Monday 2 August to 30 November 2010
Monday 1 March to 30 June 2010	Wednesday 1 September to 31 December 2010
Thursday 1 April to 30 July 2010	Friday 1 October to 31 January 2011
Tuesday 4 May to 31 August 2010	Monday 1 November to 28 February 2011
Tuesday 1 June to 30 September 2010	Wednesday 1 December to 31 March 2011

The Forward Plan of key decisions can be read on [www.kent.gov.uk/your\\_council](http://www.kent.gov.uk/your_council) and at the Council's Corporate Library throughout Kent.

Geoffrey Wild  
Director of Law and Governance  
Kent County Council, Sessions House  
County Hall, Maidstone ME14 1XQ



### TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

#### TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACTS - NOTICES OF APPLICATIONS

The following applications have been submitted to the Council and are being advertised for the reason(s) given in each case.

TM/09/01879/TEN - Castle Lake Castle Way Leybourne West Malling Kent ME19 5TR

- Orange PCS Ltd are applying for Installation of a 14.7m telecommunications pole with 3 integral antenna and one equipment cabinet on the pavement. Reason: TEL

TM/09/01780/FL - 8 The Rocks Road East Malling West Malling Kent ME19 6AN

- Mrs Diane Brazier IS applying for replacement conservatory and double glazing to rear. Reason: CA LB HH

TM/09/01803/FL - Wentshaw Lodge Vigo Road Fairseat Sevenoaks Kent TN15 7LR

- Mr Carlo Bonacci is applying for one small 5kw Iskra AT5-1 wind turbine, the wind turbine is located at 15m AGL mounted on a free-standing tower on a 2.5m concrete base. The proposed tri-blade rotor has a diameter of 5.4m. Reason: DEPART

#### Reasons for the case being publicised:

LB Application relates to/affects a Listed Building or its setting  
CA Application is within/affects a Conservation Area  
DEPART Application does not accord with the Development Plan  
TEL Telecommunications development on a site of 1ha or more  
HH Householder application - As this is a householder application, in the event of an appeal against a refusal of planning permission, which is to be dealt with on the basis of representations in writing, any representations made about this application will be sent to the Secretary of State, and there will be no further opportunity to comment at appeal stage.

These applications are displayed on our website [www.tmbc.gov.uk](http://www.tmbc.gov.uk) - click on the button "Online Planning" (then View Existing Applications and select Public Access). You can submit your comments by emailing to [planning.applications@tmbc.gov.uk](mailto:planning.applications@tmbc.gov.uk) (please quote the application number by the date set out below). Please note that we will publish a copy of any representations received on the Council's website, including your name and address.

Copies of applications listed may be seen during office hours (8.30 am and 5.00 pm Monday to Friday). Any applications within Hadlow, Hildenborough and Tonbridge are available at Tonbridge Castle, Tonbridge. Other applications are available at the office of the Director of Planning, Transport & Leisure, Gibson Building, Gibson Drive, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4LZ. Any representations should be made in writing quoting the application number by 6 September 2009.

David Hughes  
Chief Executive  
16 August 2009



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### Highways - District of Ashford

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (BLUEBELL ROAD FOOTPATH) (RESTRICTIONS ON PEDESTRIANS) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is hereby given that because of the installation of a new water main, the Kent County Council has made an Order closing Bluebell Road Footpath for its whole length from Bluebell Road eastwards, on or after 20 August 2009, for an estimated period of 30 weeks or until the works are complete.

The alternative route for pedestrians will be via Acorn Close or Wood Lane.

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (PICKELDEN LANE, CHILHAM) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is hereby given that because of the reconstruction of Stile Farm Bridge, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Pickelden Lane, Chilham, between the Level Crossing and the junction with Stile Farm Road, on or after 17 August 2009, for an estimated period of up to 9 months or until the works are complete.

The works will be carried out in two phases, with the full road closure not being required until the second phase of the works. However, the road may be closed on certain occasions during the first phase, as and when signs and barriers are displayed on site.

The planned phases are as follows

- (a) August 2009 - early December 2009 - site set-up and temporary diversion of utility services
- (b) December 2009 - May 2010 - demolition and reconstruction of bridge.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via A28 Canterbury Road, Shalmsford Street, Chartham Downs Road, Mystole Lane and Mystole Road.

This Order will come into force from 17 August 2009, will be in operation when the appropriate signs are erected, and will remain valid for a maximum period of eighteen months.

### Highways - District of Canterbury

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (CHARLES STREET, HERNE BAY) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is hereby given that because cabling works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Charles Street between Chapel Street and East Street on or after 1 September 2009 for an estimated period of 1 week or until the works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via East Street, Central Parade, Canterbury Road, High Street and North Street

During the period of the works the following Orders are temporarily suspended as and when the appropriate signs are displayed.

- 1. The one way Order in North Street is temporarily reversed.
- 2. The one way Order in Charles Street is temporarily suspended between North Street and East Street to become two way.

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (RECTORY LANE, BARHAM) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is hereby given that because gas mains replacement works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Rectory Lane, from Court Cottage to outside number 10 on or after 31 August 2009 for an estimated period of 6 Weeks or until the works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Church Lane, Gravel Castle Road, Old Dover Road, and Rectory Lane

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (GAS STREET, CANTERBURY) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is hereby given that because subsidence works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic along the whole length of Gas Street on or after 1 September 2009 for an estimated period of 3 days or until the works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Castle Street, Rosemary Lane and Church Lane.

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (MARLEY LANE, KINGSTON) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is hereby given that because carriageway patching and haunching works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Marley Lane, Kingston between The Street and Turks Hill on or after 1 September 2009 for an estimated period of 12 days or until the works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be:

Eastbound via Turks Hill, Covet Lane, Bonny Bush Hill and The Street.

Westbound via Westwood Road and Turks Hill.

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (GARLINGE GREEN ROAD, PETHAM) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is hereby given that because carriageway repairs are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Garlinge Green Road, Petham from its junction with Chartham Downs to Garlinge Court Farm on or after 17 August 2009 for an estimated period of 12 days or until the works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Chartham Downs, Kenfield Road and Garlinge Green Road.

### Highways - Borough of Maidstone

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (CUMBERLAND AVENUE & NORTHUMBERLAND ROAD, SHEPWAY) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Cumberland Avenue between Suffolk Road and Owletts Close and Northumberland Road between Cumberland Avenue and Cambridge Crescent next to Gloucester Road on or after Monday 17th August 2009 for a period of up to 2 weeks or until such works are completed. The closures will run concurrently.

The alternative route for Cumberland Avenue is via Suffolk Road, Oxford Road, Northumberland Road and for Northumberland Road is via Northumberland Road, Cambridge Crescent.

Kent Highway Services apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works, which are necessary for replacing existing road humps. Should you require any further information about these works, the contact is Andy Padgham on 08458 247 800.

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (HUNTON AND YALDING, MAIDSTONE) (WEIGHT LIMIT) ORDER 2009**

Notice is hereby given that KENT COUNTY COUNCIL proposes to make the above named Order under 1, 2(4) and part IV of Schedule 9 section 9 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with Paragraph 20 of Schedule 9 to the Act:

The Order prohibits any person to cause any vehicle capable of exceeding 7.5 tonnes gross weight from using the following roads or lengths of road specified below, subject to exemptions for access.

Lughorse Lane	Entire length
West Street	From the junction with Lughorse Lane to the junction with Mill Lane.
Mill Lane	From the junction with West Street to the junction with B2162 Benover Road
Vicarage Road	From the junction with Mill lane to the junction with B2010 High Street, Yalding

Full details are contained in the draft Order which together with the relevant plans, any Orders amended by the proposals and a statement of the council's reasons for proposing to make the Order, may be examined on Monday to Friday at Kent Highway Services, Doubleday House, St Michael's Close, Aylesford, Kent and at Invicta House, Maidstone during normal opening times. If you wish to offer support for or object to the proposed Order you should send the grounds in writing to the Kent Highway Services, at Kent Highway Services, Doubleday House, St Michael's Close, Aylesford, Kent or by email to transport&development.maidstone\_t&m@kent.gov.uk by noon on Monday 7 September 2009.

### Highways - District of Sevenoaks

**KENT COUNTY COUNCIL SHOREHAM LANE, HALTSIED (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Shoreham Lane, Halsted outside and opposite Widhurst Farm.

The Order will become effective on 1st September, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to last 1 week. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the route described above will be via: Station Road, Watercroft Road, Old London Road.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate connection works on behalf of EDF.

**KENT COUNTY COUNCIL NIGHTINGALE LANE, IDE HILL, SUNDRIDGE (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Nightingale Lane, Ide Hill, Sundridge between Garden Cottage and The Bungalow.

The Order will become effective on 17th August 2009, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to last 3 weeks. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the route described above will be via: Gracious Lane Chevening, B2042 Wheatsheaf Hill Sundridge, and Nightingale Lane Sundridge.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate the installation of a new electrical supply.

### Highways - District of Shepway

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (PARK STREET, LYDD) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is hereby given that because electrical cabling works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic on Park Street, Lydd from the junction with Oak Lane to the junction with Green Way, outside and opposite Holmstone Cottage on or after 1 September 2009 for an estimated period of 1 week or until such works are complete. The Order will remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Oak Lane, High Street and Park Street.

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (BLACKHOUSE HILL, HYTHE)(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is hereby given that because foul sewer repair works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Blackhouse Hill, Hythe from its junction with Station Road to the junction with Cliff Road, outside and opposite 15 Blackhouse Hill on 17 August 2009 for an estimated period of 7 days or until such works are complete. The Order will remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Tanners Hill, School Road, Sandling Road, Ashford Road and Bargrove.

### Highways - District of Swale

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (WHARF WAY, SITTINGBOURNE) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is hereby given that the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic on Wharf Way, Sittingbourne, for its entire extent, on or after 31 August 2009, for an indefinite period. The closure is for reasons of safety to the public, now that the industrial estate formerly served by the road has been demolished.

There is no alternative route.

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (MUNSGORE LANE, BORDEN) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is hereby given that because of drainage works, installing new gullies and kerbing, and cleaning soakaways, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Mungsgore Lane, Borden, at Sunnyhill, on or after 17 August 2009, for an estimated period of three weeks or until the works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via School Lane, Pond Farm Road and Oad Street.

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (TUNSTALL ROAD, TUNSTALL) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is hereby given that because Safety Improvements works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Tunstall Road, Tunstall from its junction with Cranbrook Drive to its junction with Hearts Delight Road on or after 17 August 2009 for an estimated period of two weeks or until such works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Woodstock Road, Park Avenue, Bradley Drive, Minterne Avenue, Riddles Road, Borden Lane, Banister Hill, Hearts Delight and Hearts Delight Road.

This order will come into force on Monday 17 August 2009, will be in operation when the appropriate signs are erected and will remain valid for a period of eighteen months. The order will allow the above mentioned restrictions to be implemented as and when required for works of a similar nature at any time for the duration of the order.

### Highways - Borough of Tunbridge Wells

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (LITTLE MOUNT SION, TUNBRIDGE WELLS OUTSIDE AND OPPOSITE NUMBER 45) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Little Mount Sion Tunbridge Wells outside and opposite number 45 on or after Sunday 23rd August 2009 for a period of up to 1 day or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the route described above is for eastbound traffic via Berkley Road and Mount Sion and for westbound traffic vice versa.

Murphy Limited apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works, which are necessary to install and disconnect cable and joint bay. Should you require any further information about these works, the contact is John Rummery on 079201 50893.

For further information, please contact Kent Highway Services, on 08458 247 800 (local rate) or visit [www.kent.gov.uk/highways](http://www.kent.gov.uk/highways)







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## BMW unleashes all-new 5 series

By **STEVE LOADER**

### IT'S tough at the top.

Germany's prestige triumvirate – Mercedes-Benz, Audi and BMW – are all giving their dealers headaches with ever increasing model line-ups.

That means more showroom space needed, more demonstrator cars and more workshop training, but this does allow a brand to cater for just about every well-heeled customer's tastes.

And that person's latest whim could be a five-door hatchback, the sort of car that sells in droves with a Ford or Vauxhall badge on the bonnet, but not something the German trio has designed to offer before.

### Versatility

They are now though: Audi will soon launch a car looking suspiciously like a five-door hatch, but called the A5 SportBack and BMW will do the same with the lavishly labelled 5-Series Gran Turismo.

There is logic to their moves though as new car buyers – even the Americans – start to think about downsizing.

Both cars give buyers of the brands' bigger cars a chance to trade down without loss of style, while hatchback versatility balances the loss of a bigger boot.

The BMW also has the cachet of a back end that can open either as a boot or as a full hatch,



though its designers won't like the fact that this feature can be bought for half the price on Skoda's value brand Superb executive flagship that arrived a year earlier.

For the BMW won't be cheap; it is expected to head the all-new 5-Series range and, incidentally, its neat lines suggest that the saloon and estate versions will be more conventionally styled than the current 5-Series... hallelujah!

The GT will be the advance guard, arriving in October and priced at 40-grand plus.

BMW describes it as blending the "luxurious interior of a BMW 7-Series, while at the same time giving the functionality of a BMW 5-Series Touring or X5 (SUV)".

The GT can be specified with limo-style twin rear seats or three across the back, and these can slide to maximise legroom or boot space according to priority.

They also fold, but I can't honestly see many



GT owners using this feature to help them cart stuff to the local household recycling site.

Seeking to tick yet one more box with fickle buyers, the seats are also raised slightly higher as if to tempt buyers switching from an SUV/4x4 style car, as well as aiding entry and exit.

Three powertrains will be available at launch: a relatively frugal 2,993cc diesel – the likely bestseller by a mile – a 2,979cc petrol model that is slightly faster, but less economical, and an egomaniac's V8.

BMW is proud to boast that the V8 offers supercar performance, though electronically limited to a 155mph maximum anyway and with consumption that is increasingly hard to justify. One for the Americans?

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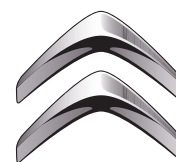
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OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT FUEL CONSUMPTION FIGURES (RANGE): URBAN CYCLE, EXTRA URBAN, COMBINED (LITRES PER 100KM/MPG) & CO<sub>2</sub> EMISSIONS (G/KM); HIGHEST: C4 HATCHBACK 1.6 16V VTi 120HP AUTO 9.9/28.5, 5.4/52.3, 7.0/40.4, 165. LOWEST: C4 HATCHBACK 1.6Hdi 16V 90HP 5.6/50.4, 3.7/76.3, 4.4/64.2, 115.

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08 58 NISSAN NOTE TEKNA 5 DR AUTO PAS AIR CAFFEE 6000 MILES.....	£10995
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08 58 VAUXHALL AGILA 1-2 DESIGN 5 DR AUTO PAS AIR SILVER 4000 MILES.....	£9495
08 58 TOYOTA AURIS TR AUTO PAS AIR/C DIESEL 5 DR GREY 4000 MILES.....	£11995
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08 58 MICRA 1-6 CONVERTIBLE CC ACENTA AUTO PAS LATTE 4000 MILES.....	£11995
08 08 MICRA 1-6 CONVERTIBLE CC ACENTA AUTO PAS LATTE 4000 MILES.....	£10995
08 08 MICRA 1-6 CONVERTIBLE CC LUXURY AUTO PAS BLACK 6000 MILES.....	£11995
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08 08 MEGANE DYNAMIC 1-6 CONVERT AUTO PAS BLACK 12000 MILES.....	£12995
08 57 MEGANE PRIVILEGE 1-6 CONVERT AUTO PAS FLAME 6000 MILES.....	£13495
07 57 MEGANE PRIVILEGE 1-6 CONVERT AUTO PAS BLUE 5000 MILES.....	£13495
06 06 MEGANE PRIVILEGE 1-6 CONVERT AUTO PAS GOLD 16000 MILES.....	£10995
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07 57 FUSION ZETEC 1-6 PLUS AUTO PAS AIR ALLOYS SEA GREY 5000 MILES.....	£8995
07 07 FUSION ZETEC 1-6 ZETEC CLIMATE AUTO PAS AIR GREEN 4000 MILES.....	£8495
06 56 FUSION 16 CLIMATE ZETEC AUTO PAS ALLOYS TONIC 10000 MILES.....	£6995
06 06 FIESTA ZETEC 1-4 CLIMATE AUTO PAS AIR/C BLUE 13000 MILES.....	£6995
06 06 FUSION 14 CLIMATE AUTO PAS ALLOYS 5 DR AMETHYST 15000 MILES.....	£6995
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06 56 FOCUS 2-0 GHIA ESTATE CAR AUTO PAS STRATOS SILVER 23000 MILES.....	£8995
06 56 FORD FOCUS GHIA AUTO PAS 5 DR AIR/C TANGO RED 9000 MILES.....	£7995
06 56 FORD FOCUS GHIA AUTO PAS 5 DR AIR/C SEA GREY 13000 MILES.....	£7995
06 56 FOCUS 1-6 ZETEC CLIMATE AUTO PAS AIR OCEAN BLUE 8000 MILES.....	£7995
06 56 FOCUS 1-6 LX ESTATE AUTO PAS AIR STEEL GREY 12000 MILES.....	£7995
06 06 FOCUS 1-6 GHIA 4 DR AUTO PAS 4 DR ALLOYS TONIC BLUE 2000 MILES.....	£7995
06 06 FOCUS 1-6 GHIA AUTO PAS 4 DR ALLOYS TONIC BLUE 3000 MILES.....	£7995
06 06 FOCUS 1-6 LX ESTATE AUTO PAS AIR PANTHER BLACK 11000 MILES.....	£6995
06 06 FOCUS 1-6 GHIA AUTO PAS 4 DR ALLOYS TONIC BLUE 21000 MILES.....	£6995
06 06 FOCUS 1-6 GHIA AUTO PAS 4 DR ALLOYS TONIC BLACK 18000 MILES.....	£6995
06 06 FOCUS 1-6 GHIA AUTO PAS 4 DR ALLOYS SILVER 21000 MILES.....	£7495
06 06 FOCUS 1-6 ZETEC CLIMATE AUTO PAS AIR/C ALLOYS SILVER 18000 MILES.....	£7495
06 06 FOCUS 1-6 ZETEC CLIMATE ESTATE AUTO PAS AIR ALLOYS 11000 MILES.....	£7495
06 06 FOCUS 1-6 ZETEC CLIMATE AUTO PAS AIR/C ESTATE TONIC 16000 MILES.....	£7495

### MONDEO

06 06 MONDEO 2-0 ZETEC AUTO PAS ESTATE TONIC BLUE 26000 MILES.....	£7995
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### CORSA

07 57 NEW CORSA 1-4 CLUB AUTO PAS AIR/C STAR SILVER 7000 MILES.....	£8995
07 57 NEW CORSA 1-4 CLUB AUTO PAS AIR/C STAR SILVER 4000 MILES.....	£8995
07 57 NEW CORSA 1-4 CLUB AUTO PAS AIR/C 3 DR ULTRA BLUE 15000 MILES.....	£7995
07 57 NEW CORSA 1-4 CLUB AUTO PAS AIR/C STAR SILVER 1800 MILES.....	£8995
07 07 NEW CORSA 1-4 CLUB AUTO PAS AIR/C 5 DR SILVER 19000 MILES.....	£7995
07 07 NEW CORSA 1-4 SX AUTO PAS AIR/C 5 DR BLUE 2000 MILES.....	£8995
07 56 CORSA 1-4 DESIGN 5 DR AUTO PAS SILVER 9000 MILES.....	£7995
07 56 CORSA 1-2 LIFE 5 DR AUTO PAS AIR/C SILVER 5000 MILES.....	£7995
06 06 CORSA 1-4 DESIGN 3 DR AUTO PAS SILVER 23000 MILES.....	£6495
06 06 CORSA 1-4 DESIGN 5 DR AUTO PAS SILVER 11000 MILES.....	£6995
06 06 CORSA 1-4 DESIGN 3 DR AUTO PAS ULTRA BLUE 2000 MILES.....	£6995
06 06 CORSA 1-0 LIFE AUTO PAS 3 DR STAR SILVER 11000 MILES.....	£4995
06 06 CORSA 1-0 LIFE AUTO PAS 5 DR STAR SILVER 9000 MILES.....	£5495
06 06 CORSA 1-0 LIFE ECO AUTO PAS 5 DR STAR SILVER 24000 MILES.....	£5495
05 05 CORSA 1-0 LIFE AUTO PAS 5 DR STAR SILVER 21000 MILES.....	£4995
05 05 CORSA 1-0 ECO 3 DR AUTO PAS WHITE 25000 MILES.....	£4495
04 53 CORSA 1-2 ENERGY AUTO PAS BI-FUEL AIR ALLOYS BLACK 38000 MILES.....	£4995
03 03 CORSA 1-0 5 DR AUTO PAS GREEN METALLIC JUST 3000 MILES.....	£3995

### KIA

08 08 KIA RIO 1-4 GS 5 DR AUTO PAS AIR/C BLUE 8000 MILES.....	£7995
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### CITROEN

08 08 CITROEN C3 1-6 SX AUTO PAS 5 DR AIR/C BLUE 8000 MILES.....	£9995
08 08 CITROEN C3 1-6 SX AUTO PAS 5 DR AIR/C BLUE 8000 MILES.....	£9995
06 06 CITROEN PICASSO EXCLUSIVE AUTO DIABLO RED 19000 MILES.....	£7495
06 06 CITROEN PICASSO EXCLUSIVE AUTO NIGHT BLUE 17000 MILES.....	£7495

### MAZDA

07 57 MAZDA 6 TS AUTO PAS ALLOYS AIR/C 5 DR SILVER BLUE 17000 MILES.....	£9995
07 07 MAZDA 6 TS AUTO PAS ALLOYS AIR/C 5 DR SILVER GREY 7000 MILES.....	£9495
06 06 MAZDA 6 TS 2 AUTO PAS ALLOYS AIR/C 5 DR BLUE 80000 MILES.....	£7995

### SUZUKI

06 06 SUZUKI IGNIS 1-5 GL 5 DR AUTO PAS MET BLUE 16000 MILES.....	£5995
01 Y SUZUKI WAGON R 1-3 GL AUTO PAS SILVER 56000 MILES.....	£2995

### HONDA

07 57 HONDA CIVIC 1-4 SE AUTO PAS AIR/C CHAMPAGNE 7000 MILES.....	£10995
07 07 HONDA JAZZ 1-4 SE AUTO PAS AIR/C BLACK 1000 MILES.....	£9995
06 56 HONDA CRV SE SPORT 5 DR AUTO PAS AIR/C SILVER 17000 MILES.....	£12995
06 06 HONDA CRV EXEC 5 DR AUTO PAS ALLOYS AIR SILVER 17000 MILES.....	£12995
06 06 HONDA CRV EXEC 5 DR AUTO PAS ALLOYS AIR SILVER 23000 MILES.....	£12495
06 06 HONDA CRV SE SPORT 5 DR AUTO PAS AIR/C SILVER 17000 MILES.....	£12995
06 06 HONDA CRV SE SPORT 5 DR AUTO PAS AIR/C BLACK 14000 MILES.....	£11995
06 06 HONDA CRV SPORT 5 DR AUTO PAS AIR/C BLACK 22000 MILES.....	£10995
06 06 HONDA JAZZ 1-4 SE AUTO PAS AIR/C ALLOYS BLACK 16000 MILES.....	£8495
05 55 HONDA JAZZ 1-4 SE SPORT AUTO PAS AIR ALLOYS SILVER 16000 MILES.....	£8495
02 52 HONDA CRV SE SPORT 5 DR AUTO PAS AIR/C SILVER 42000 MILES.....	£7495

### HYUNDAI

07 07 HYUNDAI AMICA 1-1 CDX 5 DR AUTO PAS MET GREY 5000 MILES.....	£5995
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01 Y HONDA CIVIC EXECUTIVE AUTO PAS 5 DR BLACK 48000 MILES.....	£3995

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08 08 TOYOTA YARIS T3 AUTO PAS AIR/C 5 DR ALLOYS BLACK 8000 MILES.....	£9495
07 57 AYGO 1-0 PLUS 3 DR AUTO PAS SILVER 2000 MILES.....	£7495
06 56 AVENSIS T3-X 1-4 AUTO PAS ALLOYS 5 DR CARLO BLUE 9000 MILES.....	£9995
06 56 COROLLA 1-6 T3 5 DR AUTO PAS AIR/C MET SILVER 15000 MILES.....	£9995
06 06 COROLLA 1-6 T3 5 DR AUTO PAS AIR/C ION BLUE 12000 MILES.....	£8995
06 06 COROLLA 1-6 T3 5 DR AUTO PAS AIR/C INNEOS GREY 14000 MILES.....	£8995
06 06 COROLLA 1-6 T3 5 DR AUTO PAS AIR/C BLACK 14000 MILES.....	£8995
06 06 YARIS 1-3 T3 AUTO PAS AIR/C 3 DR BLUE MET 10000 MILES.....	£7495
06 06 YARIS 1-3 T SPIRIT AUTO PAS AIR/C 5 DR BLUE MET 11000 MILES.....	£7995
05 55 YARIS 1-3 T SPIRIT 3 DR AUTO PAS AIR ALLOYS SILVER 3000 MILES.....	£7695
05 55 YARIS 1-3 T SPIRIT 5 DR AUTO PAS AIR ALLOYS SILVER 9000 MILES.....	£7995
05 54 YARIS 1-3 T SPIRIT 5 DR AUTO PAS AIR ALLOYS SILVER 3000 MILES.....	£7995

### NISSAN

08 08 NISSAN MICRA ACENTA + 5 DR AUTO PAS CAFFE LATTE 4000 MILES.....	£8995
08 08 NISSAN NOTE ACENTA 5 DR AUTO PAS INFERNO RED 2000 MILES.....	£9995
07 57 NISSAN MICRA ACENTA 1-2 AUTO PAS INFERNO RED 17000 MILES.....	£7995
07 57 NISSAN NOTE ACENTA 5 DR AUTO PAS CAFFE LATTE 4000 MILES.....	£8995
07 57 NISSAN NOTE TEKNA 5 DR AUTO PAS AIR BLUE 6000 MILES.....	£9495
07 07 NISSAN MICRA 1-4 SPIRITA AUTO PAS RED MET JUST 1000 MILES.....	£7495
06 06 NISSAN MICRA 1-2 SE 5 DR AUTO PAS AIR/C SILVER 22000 MILES.....	£6495
06 06 NISSAN MICRA 1-4 SVE 3 DR AUTO PAS AIR/C RED 13000 MILES.....	£6495
06 06 NISSAN MICRA 1-4 SVE 5 DR AUTO PAS AIR/C BLACK 24000 MILES.....	£6995
06 06 NISSAN MICRA 1-2 SE 5 DR AUTO PAS AIR/C SILVER 6000 MILES.....	£6995
06 06 NISSAN MICRA 1-2 SE 5 DR AUTO PAS AIR/C RED 21000 MILES.....	£6495
06 06 NISSAN MICRA 1-2 SE 3 DR AUTO PAS AIR/C GREEN 17000 MILES.....	£6495
06 06 NISSAN MICRA 1-2 S 5 DR AUTO PAS AIR/C BLUE 11000 MILES.....	£6495
04 04 NISSAN PRIMERA 1-8 S AUTO PAS 5 DR GOLD 49000 MILES.....	£4995
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98 S NISSAN MICRA 1-3 GX 5 DR AUTO PAS SILVER 45000 MILES.....	£2995
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### SKODA

08 58 SKODA ROOMSTER 2 AUTO PAS AIR/C BLACK 6000 MILES.....	£10495
08 08 SKODA ROOMSTER 2 AUTO PAS AIR/C CHAMPAGNE 5000 MILES.....	£9995

### MG ROVER

03 03 ROVER 45 IMPRESSION AUTO PAS AIR/C NIGHTFIRE RED 43000 MILES.....	£3495
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### CHEVROLET

08 08 CHEVROLET LACETTI EST 1-8 SX SW AUTO PAS 5 DR BLUE 4000 MILES.....	£6995
08 57 CHEVROLET MATIZ 8-0 SE AUTO PAS BLUE 5 DR 13000 MILES.....	£5695
06 56 CHEVROLET MATIZ 8-0 SE AUTO PAS SILVER 2000 MILES.....	£5295
06 56 CHEVROLET MATIZ 8-0 SE AUTO PAS OCEAN BLUE 10000 MILES.....	£5495
06 06 CHEVROLET MATIZ 8-0 SE AUTO PAS BLACK 25000 MILES.....	£4295

### VOLKSWAGEN

08 08 VW POLO 1-4 MATCH 3 DR AUTO PAS AIR/C CORNFLOWER 4000 MILES.....	£3495
08 08 VW POLO 1-4 MATCH 5 DR AUTO PAS AIR/C SILVER 7000 MILES.....	£3995
06 56 VW GOLF 1-6 S 5 DR AUTO PAS AIR/C BLACK 18000 MILES.....	£9995
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07 57 MERCEDES C180 KOMP AVANTGARDE SE CUBANITE 13000 MILES.....	£16995
06 56 A CLASS 150 ELEGANCE SE AUTO PAS 5 DR GOLD 9000 MILES.....	£10995
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08 08 ASTRA 1-8 DESIGN AUTO PAS ESTATE STAR SILVER 8000 MILES.....	£9995
08 57 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS AIR/C 5 DR ULTRA BLUE 13000 MILES.....	£8495
08 57 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS AIR/C 5 DR ULTRA BLUE 4000 MILES.....	£7995
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08 57 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS AIR/C 5 DR SILVER 11000 MILES.....	£7995
07 57 ASTRA 1-8 CLUB AUTO PAS ESTATE PANNACOTTA 11000 MILES.....	£7995
07 57 ASTRA 1-8 DESIGN AUTO PAS ESTATE STAR SILVER 17000 MILES.....	£8995
07 07 ASTRA 1-8 DESIGN AUTO PAS ESTATE METRO BLUE 7000 MILES.....	£8495
07 07 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS AIR/C ESTATE PANNACOTTA 6000 MILES.....	£7495
07 07 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS AIR/C 5 DR TURQUOISE 15000 MILES.....	£6995
07 56 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS 5 DR AIR/C STAR SILVER 17000 MILES.....	£6495
06 56 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS 5 DR ESTATE PAS AIR PANNACOTTA 17000 MILES.....	£6995
06 56 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO 5 DR ESTATE PAS AIR STAR SILVER 8000 MILES.....	£6995
06 06 ASTRA 1-8 DESIGN AUTO PAS ALLOYS ESTATE SILVER 15000 MILES.....	£7495
06 06 ASTRA 1-8 DESIGN AUTO PAS ALLOYS ESTATE SILVER 18000 MILES.....	£6995
06 06 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO 5 DR ESTATE PAS AIR ULTRA BLUE 14000 MILES.....	£6495
06 06 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO 5 DR ESTATE PAS AIR ULTRA BLUE 12000 MILES.....	£6495
06 06 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO 5 DR ESTATE PAS AIR ULTRA BLUE 20000 MILES.....	£6495
06 06 ASTRA 1-8 CLUB AUTO 5 DR ESTATE PAS AIR SILVER 13000 MILES.....	£6695
06 06 ASTRA 1-8 CLUB AUTO 5 DR ESTATE PAS AIR BLACK 12000 MILES.....	£6695
06 06 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS 5 DR AIR/C ULTRA BLUE 21000 MILES.....	£6495
06 06 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS 5 DR AIR/C ULTRA BLUE 20000 MILES.....	£6495

### CHRYSLER

01 51 CHRYSLER NEON LX AUTO PAS BLUE LEATHER ALLOYS 28000 MILES.....	£2995
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### NEW ZAFIRA ZAFIRA & MERIVA 5 & 7 SEATS MPV'S

08 08 NEW ZAFIRA 1-8 EXCLUSIVE AUTO PAS AIR/C BLACK 12000 MILES.....	£10995
07 57 ZAFIRA 2-2 CLUB AUTO PAS AIR/C ULTRA BLUE 7000 MILES.....	£8995
07 07 ZAFIRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS AIR/C BLACK 6000 MILES.....	£8995
07 56 MERIVA 1-6 LIFE AUTO PAS AIR/C 5 DR BLUE 10000 MILES.....	£6995
06 06 MERIVA 1-6 LIFE AUTO PAS AIR/C 5 DR SILVER 12000 MILES.....	£6995
06 06 MERIVA 1-6 LIFE AUTO PAS AIR/C 5 DR MAUVE 13000 MILES.....	£7995

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08 08 GRAND SCENIC 1-6 DYNAMIQUE 5 DR AUTO PAS BLACK 2000 MILES.....	£11995
08 08 RENAULT CLIO 1-6 EXPRESSION 3 DR AUTO PAS 2000 MILES.....	£8995
08 08 SCENIC 1-6 DYNAMIQUE 5 DR AUTO PAS AIR GREY 17000 MILES.....	£10995
07 57 RENAULT MODUS INITIALE 1-6 AUTO PAS LEATHER 9000 MILES.....	£8995
07 57 SCENIC 1-6 DYNAMIQUE 5 DR AUTO PAS AIR GOLD 16000 MILES.....	£8995
07 57 SCENIC 1-6 DYNAMIQUE 5 DR AUTO PAS AIR GREY 12000 MILES.....	£8995
07 07 SCENIC DYNAMIC 1-6 AUTO PAS AIR/C GREEN MET 8000 MILES.....	£7995
07 07 SCENIC GRAND DYNAMIC 2-0 AUTO PAS AIR/C GREY 5000 MILES.....	£8995
07 07 MEGANE 1-6 DYNAMIQUE 5 DR AUTO PAS AIR SILVER 16000 MILES.....	£6995
06 56 RENAULT MODUS 1-6 DYNAMIC AUTO PAS AIR/C SILVER 17000 MILES.....	£8995
06 56 LAGUNA 2-0 DYNAMIC AUTO PAS AIR/C SILVER 17000 MILES.....	£6995
06 06 RENAULT MODUS 1-6 PRIVILEGE AUTO PAS FLAME RED 7000 MILES.....	£6995
06 06 RENAULT MODUS 1-6 DYNAMIC AUTO PAS AQUA 6000 MILES.....	£6995
06 06 SCENIC DYNAMIC 16 AUTO PAS 5 DR AIR/C BLACK 11000 MILES.....	£7495
06 06 SCENIC PRIVILEGE 1-6 AUTO PAS AIR/C BLACK 17000 MILES.....	£7995
06 06 SCENIC DYNAMIC 16 AUTO PAS 5 DR AIR/C BLUE MET 16000 MILES.....	£7495
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# FIRST GEAR

Compiled by Steve Loader

## Porsche tries four-door formula

FROM a brand that once relied on just two models, Porsche has created a stable that will soon expand to five.

The new runner is the dramatically-styled four-door Panamera Gran Turismo, aimed at a growing niche for four-door sports tourers; Maserati already has the Quattroporte, Mercedes-Benz offers the CLS,

Jaguar's elegant new XJ almost qualifies as one, and Aston Martin joins the club soon.

The Panamera lines up with the 911 icon, Boxster, Cayman and Cayenne SUV, in the Porsche range on 12 September priced from £72,266 with a choice of 400 or 500bhp 4.8-litre V8 engines and rear or four-wheel drive.

It sounds like a lot of money in current times, but perhaps not for a Porsche that seats four and has all the cachet, heritage and looks of the classic 911.

It will also soon be available with a more socially-acceptable six-cylinder petrol engine and a petrol-electric hybrid powertrain.



## Estate founder's classy new heir

WHEN it comes to estates, the Mercedes-Benz E-Class is still the gvnor.

Even when 'load luggers' were regarded as blue collar rather than white, a Merc E pitched you well above the hoi polloi.

No wonder M-B claims the model founded what is now the 'premium lifestyle estate segment' when the

first example arrived in 1977.

There was a reliability wobble with the previous generation, but a midlife crisis facelift put matters right and the launch of all-new successor is expected to maintain that form early next year.

It also has class-leading innovations such as driver drowsiness detection and automatic emergency

braking when an accident is recognised as imminent.

Self-levelling rear suspension is standard, plus innovative loading and quick fold rear seating.

As with other recent M-B models, economy has been boosted, yet power is up too – most engine options qualify for the brand's BlueEfficiency low emissions label.

## Toyota optimises range

TOYOTA'S high power/low consumption 'Optimal Drive' engine range is proving its worth with the addition of two further units to the Avensis family/company car line-up.

Most notable is the 1.6-litre 'Valvematic' petrol unit, which delivers 130bhp and accelerates to 62mph in just over 10 seconds, yet should average well over 40mpg.

This becomes the new entry model for the Avensis saloon and Tourer (estate) range (from £16,485) and availability of its existing 1.8-litre sister is also extended across the line-up.



The new engine's fellow debutante is a 2.2-litre diesel with six-speed automatic transmission as standard – Toyota's first diesel automatic passenger car – which should also average over 40mpg.

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Official Government Environment Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions (g/km). Aveo 1.2 S 3dr: Urban - 39.2 (7.2), Extra-urban - 61.4 (4.6), Combined - 51.4 (5.5). CO<sub>2</sub> emissions 132g/km. Matiz 0.8 S 5dr: Urban - 43.5 (6.5), Extra-urban - 68.9 (4.1), Combined - 56.5 (5.0). CO<sub>2</sub> emissions 119g/km.

Vehicles shown feature metallic paint available at extra cost (Matiz £325, Aveo £350). 3 years/30,000 miles full service package at an optional cost of £249. Available at participating retailers only. Not available in conjunction with any other offers. Savings are against current man. rec. price and available on UK supplied vehicles ordered and registered before 30th September 2009. Prices correct at time of press. £2,000 Government Scrappage Allowance is dependent on the vehicle meeting the full Government Scrappage incentive criteria. The Government Scrappage payment applies to vehicles registered on or before 31.08.09 when traded-in against a new vehicle subject to conditions. Offers apply to new vehicles ordered or registered between 07.07.09 and 30.09.09, and are subject to status, eligibility, terms and conditions. (Chev77794)



## FirstDrive

by  
**STEVE LOADER**Volvo C30 **DRIVE**

VOLVO has embarked on a new environmental route with all the thoroughness employed when it tackled safety innovation.

Though it claims to have been environmentally aware since the 1970s, the upmarket Swedish brand is looking at every alternative power source, including electric and hybrid models, but has taken its first step with a new eco-friendly DRIVE sub-brand.

DRIVE also means reviewing and cutting energy used in production and recycling of the cars, as well as their lifetime running costs and emissions.

For UK buyers, it means wind-cheating and modified diesel versions of familiar models that actually look a whole lot better than before, cost little more and feel good to drive – surely, having your cake and eating it?

The best of the bunch is the new C30 DRIVE (from £15,995), making the most of that model's distinctive coupe hatchback styling with trademark all-glass tailgate.

It isn't the most practical hatchback, but surely the most practical genuine coupe on the market and now one of the most energy-efficient and least polluting. You can even have it with Volvo's tasteful 'R-Design' body kit comprising various spoilers, sideskirts and smart alloys.

I found the C30's sportiness barely affected by the DRIVE engine revisions and low-rolling resistance tyres, yet this car has an official combined fuel consumption of 62.8mpg – 72.4 with the 'Full Monty' DRIVE package includ-



## Volvo's green light to DRIVE



**GREEN MACHINES:** The Volvo C40 (above) coupe, with its distinctive tail, is the best of the Volvo DRIVE range

dard DRIVE emits 119g/km of CO2 making it eligible for the lowest payable road tax of £35/year, while the Start/Stop version only just falls short of tax exemption with 104g/km, helped by under body aerodynamics, covered grille and rear spoiler plus diffuser.

It also has a 'regenerative charge' feature, using the car's own forward movement rather than engine power to recharge the battery.

The smooth and well-soundproofed 109PS (108bhp) 1.6 diesel engine plus consumption and emissions figures are shared with the bigger S40 saloon and V50 estate DRIVE models – priced from £17,745 and £19,095 respectively – and all sit 10mm lower to further aid aerodynamics and handling.

Perhaps Volvo's greater achievement

though is how the DRIVE treatment – minus Start/Stop – has been applied to bigger models: the newly revamped S80 executive saloon (£21,745), the V70 (£22,745) and rugged XC70 (£27,995) estate twins and the XC60 SUV (£26,745).

These XC models have been demoted to front-wheel drive only, but gained astonishing combined consumption figures of nearly 50mpg and emissions of 159g/km of CO2, qualifying them for £150 road tax.

A lengthy test drive in the XC70 – a truly capacious estate car – showed that the five-cylinder 175PS (173bhp) 2.4 diesel has plenty of low-down urge, yet the onboard computer read an mpg in the mid-40s most of the time.

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FRONT BRAKES & DISCS	£139.99	£195.05	£178.99
CLUTCHES	£329.99	£466.74	N/A

Price comparisons based on a 2004 Peugeot 206 1.4 petrol model, competitors prices taken from their web sites, comparison prices correct on 23/07/09, prices do not take into account any local special offers.

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Official government fuel consumption figures (mpg/litres per 100km) for the smart fortwo cdi: urban 83.1/3.4, extra urban 88.3/3.2, combined 85.6/3.3, CO2 emissions 88 g/km.

Model featured is the new smart fortwo cdi cabriolet passion at £10,880.42 on the road (on the road price includes VAT, delivery, 12 months' road fund licence, number plates, first registration fee and fuel). Including Crystal white paint at £0.00, Tridion safety cell in silver at £0.00 and Design beige interior at £0.00.

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## DrivingReview

by  
**STEVE LOADER**CHIEF DRIVING CORRESPONDENT  
steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk**Mitsubish Colt Cleartec**

THERE'S is a wind of change blowing at Mitsubishi.

Not only is the Japanese brand conspicuously involved in major environmental projects such as the Dungeness wind farm, but also playing down its image as a producer of big 4x4s and pick-ups.

The mad EVO road-going rally car is still there as a technological tour de force and halo model and you can buy sporty Ralliart versions of mainstream models, but Mitsubishi now wants to shout about its greener cars.

One for the future is its electric version of the clever five-door iCar runabout, while the eco star of the moment is our road test choice, the Colt Cleartec.

I was slightly underwhelmed at the launch earlier this year as the model's centrepiece, the 'Auto Stop & Go' system seemed rather crude compared to rival solutions I had driven.

However, it can save up to 30 per cent of the car's emissions as well as improving economy by stopping and then restarting automatically when the car is stuck in traffic or halted at the lights.

# Colt signals Mitsubishi shift to greener ways



The Cleartec is cheap to buy and run too and there is much to be said for an eco-friendly supermini using a lighter petrol engine, rather than a heavy diesel that costs more upfront and needs a dearer fuel, even if it is better on overall mileage.

And I rather like the Colt, especially after a major midlife makeover; the profile is similar

but only 35 per cent of parts were carried over for the rework.

It also gained the smart 'Jet Fighter' nose introduced on the latest Mitsubishi Lancer.

As before, you get two body choices: a sporty three-door – that fits the hotter models – and a more upright five-door that is virtually a mini-MPV.

The latter in 94bhp 1.3 CZ2 Cleartec form is our test car and looks great value at an official £10,099 and even better if you push for a deal or qualify for the current £2,000 Scrappage grant.

In addition to purchase savings and those from Auto Stop & Go, you also gain economy and reduced emissions from low-rolling

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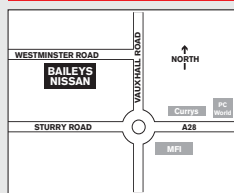
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resistance tyres, a higher top gear, improved alternator and lower viscosity oil, among other tweaks.

This adds up to just 119g/km of CO<sub>2</sub> on emissions or the lowest payable road tax band (£35/year) and a potential average mpg in the mid-50s for the Cleartec.

Where some quoted averages are fanciful, I wouldn't argue much with that after racking up several hundred miles with the car and you certainly don't feel compromised by the eco features.

For a start, the stop-and-go system appeared smoother on the test car – perhaps it settles down with a few miles on the clock – and the Cleartec accelerates faster than its conventional sister model, no doubt helped by the narrower and harder tyres, though these still keep the car tidy when pushing hard on a windy road.

Mind you, acting the fool in this eco-friendly car exposes the Colt's slightly jittery ride, but this is a rare complaint. The car is mostly refined and quieter than before, after some intensive sound absorption and isolation work.

The revamped car has lost some versatility – and no doubt helped save Mitsubishi some pro-



duction costs – with the replacement of the folding/removable rear seats by a conventional fixed/fold flat arrangement, but this delivers more boot space without compromising head and leg room in the lofty cabin.

Sadly, interior design and materials gained

little from the revamp; earlier two-tone 'cool' highlights have gone, even if the ample stowage was retained.



## DrivingStats

• Mitsubishi Colt 1.3 CZ2 Cleartec 5-dr £10,099

Range: £7,999-12,849

Garage stats: 3.94m by 1.69m five-door supermini

Powertrain: 1,332cc/94bhp four-cylinder petrol engine driving front wheels through a five-speed manual gearbox

Performance: top speed 112mph and 0-62mph in 10.6 seconds

How green?: band B (£35/year) road tax - 119g/km CO<sub>2</sub> emissions

Official fuel figures: combined 56.5mpg

Euro NCAP occupant safety rating (0-5 stars): \*\*\*\*

Fuel tank: 47 litres/10.3 gallons

Insurance group: 5

Warranty: three years/unlimited miles.

Website: www.mitsubishi-cars.co.uk

Rivals: Alfa Romeo MiTo, Chevrolet Aveo, Citroen C2/C3, Daihatsu Sirion, Fiat Grande Punto, Ford Fiesta, Honda Jazz, Hyundai i20, Kia Rio, Mazda2, Nissan Micra, Perodua Myvi, Peugeot 207, Renault Clio, Seat Ibiza, Skoda Fabia, Subaru Justy, Suzuki Splash or Swift, Toyota Yaris, Vauxhall Corsa or Agila and VW Polo

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## AUDI

**A4**, 2.0 multitronic diesel auto, 2005, blue metallic with grey cloth interior, 115000 miles, £6999, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

**RS6**, CAT D REPAIRED, 2003, grey with black leather, 27000 miles, £13995, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

## BMW

**3 SERIES**, 325i se manual touring, 2001, crystal green met with green cloth, 122000 miles, £2999, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

**5 SERIES**, 523i sport manual, 2007, silver metallic with black alcantara sport seats, 39000 miles, £16999, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

**X5**, 3.0 sport automatic, 2002, topaz blue metallic with black dakota sport leather, 104365 miles, £8999, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

**X5**, 4.4i v8 auto, 2002, silver metallic with beige leather, 76400 miles, £9999, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

**X5**, 3.0d Sport 5dr Auto, xDrive4M, adjustable seats, adjustable steering, 60000 miles, £17995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

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**C-MAX**, 2.0TDCi Titanium 136ps 5dr "AUTOMATIC SPORT PACK", ca08cwu, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, front armrest, electrically adjustable seats, head restraints, folding rear seats, lumbar support, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, side airbags, radio/cd, rear headrests, with over 400 ford cars in stock today, 18 alloys, sports pack, central locking, child locks, colour coding body, computer, £15000, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

**C-MAX**, 1.6TDCi Zetec 5dr, ap08nfn, contact the used car team for more help, all vehicles come with balance of 3 year, 17 alloy upgrade, abs, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, central locking, cloth upholstery, colour coding body, driver airbag, electric mirrors, foglights, front armrest, heated screen, locking wheel nuts, immobiliser, metallic paintwork, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, adjustable seats, child locks, electric windows, head restraints, folding rear seats, remote locking, side airbags. insurance group:7, grey, 23102 miles, £11495, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

**C-MAX**, 1.8TDCi Titanium 5dr\*\*\*\*\*SPORT PACK 3\*\*\*\*\*, ng08nhr, contact the used car team for more help, all vehicles come with balance of 3 year, balance of 3 year warranty, 18 alloys, rain sensing wipers, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, central locking, child locks, colour coding body, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, front armrest, heated screen, locking wheel nuts, immobiliser, metallic paintwork, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, radio/cd, rear headrests, insurance group:8, grey, 25693 miles, £12495, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

**C-MAX**, 1.8TDCi Zetec 5dr - PRIVACY GLASS, n108ysv, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, central locking, child locks, cloth upholstery, colour coding body, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, extra seats, foglights, front armrest, head restraints, heated screen, locking wheel nuts, lumbar support, immobiliser, metallic paintwork, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, radio, remote locking. insurance group:7, silver, 26668 miles, £10695, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

**C-MAX**, 1.6TDCi Zetec 5dr - SPORT PACK 2, pk08bso, sport seats, sports suspension, 17 alloys, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, body kit, cd multichanger, central locking, colour coding body, colour coding interior, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, heated screen, locking wheel nuts, lumbar support, immobiliser, metallic paintwork, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, radio, remote locking, side airbags, steel wheels, tinted glass, traction control. insurance group:7, silver, 25206 miles, £10995, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

**C-MAX**, 1.6TDCi Zetec 110 5dr [DPF] - SPORTS PACK 2, ea58nxx, sports pack body coloured rear spoiler, sport seats, sports suspension, privacy glass, 17 alloys, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, body kit, central locking, child locks, cloth upholstery, colour coding body, colour coding interior, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, extra seats, foglights, front armrest, head restraints, heated screen, locking wheel nuts, lumbar support, immobiliser, metallic paintwork, park distance control, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, radio, rear armrest, remote locking, spoiler, rear headrests, sports seats, tinted glass, traction control. insurance group:7, blue, 2655 miles, £12995, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

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**C-MAX**, 1.8TDCi Zetec 5dr - PRIVACY GLASS & 16 ALLOYS, oe08eof, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, central locking, child locks, cloth upholstery, colour coding body, colour coding interior, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, extra seats, foglights, front armrest, head restraints, folding rear seats, heated screen, locking wheel nuts, lumbar support, radio, remote locking, radio/cd, silver, 25500 miles, £10695, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

**C-MAX**, 1.6TDCi Titanium 110 5dr [DPF] - TITANIUM X PACK, ea58wv, 18 alloy wheels, front and rear park assist, heated front seats, full leather seats, privacy glass, sony player, abs, adjustable seats, wheel nuts, lumbar support, steering, radio, insurance group:8, silver, 11500 miles, £13995, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

**FIESTA**, 1.4 Ghia, 2007, moon dust silver, 14000 miles, £8495, Tenterden, 01580 765011 (TRADE)

**FIESTA**, 1.6 Ghia Automatic, 2006, moon dust silver, 10000 miles, £7995, Tenterden, 01580 765011 (TRADE)

**FIESTA**, 1.6TDCi Zetec Climate, 2006, amethyst, 39400 miles, £7495, Tenterden, 01580 765011 (TRADE)

**FIESTA**, 'New Shape' 1.25 Zetec, 2009, vision, 1500 miles, £11795, Tenterden, 01580 765011 (TRADE)

**FIESTA**, Zetec Climate 1242cc 5 door, 2006, central locking driver's airbag power steering history check electric windows, metallic blue, 26350 miles, £6495, Sittingbourne, 01795 476222 (TRADE)

**FIESTA**, 1.4 Zetec 3dr (Climate) - SPORT & TECH PACK, wj57gzb, privacy glass, folding mirrors, auto headlights, auto wipers, abs, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests. insurance group:5, black, 37825 miles, £7495, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

**FIESTA**, 1.25 Zetec 3dr (Climate) - SPORT & TECH PACK, g08kpu, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests. insurance group:4, silver, 16719 miles, £7995, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

**FIESTA**, 1.25 Zetec 3dr [82] - CITY PACK & BLUETOOTH, g109uat, power folding door mirrors, rear parking sensors, 2nd remote key, bluetooth with voice control, abs, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, passenger airbag, remote locking, radio/cd, insurance group:4, black, 5500 miles, £12995, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

**FIESTA**, 1.25 Style 3dr (Climate), y155bfu, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests. insurance group:3, blue, 27301 miles, £5795, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

**FIESTA**, 1.25 Style 3dr, g107ubd, adjustable seats, driver airbag, electric windows, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests. insurance group:4, red, 7300 miles, £7495, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

**FIESTA**, 1.6TDCi Zetec S 3dr - FULL LEATHER, ej57oac, abs, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric windows, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, sports seats. insurance group:6, silver, 13394 miles, £8995, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

**FIESTA**, 1.4 Ghia 5dr - FULL LEATHER, wu58xy, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, leather seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests. insurance group:5, blue, 14077 miles, £8495, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

**FIESTA**, 2.0 ST 3dr - FULL LEATHER, g107bno, park assist, abs, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, head restraints, folding rear seats, leather seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd multichanger, rear headrests, sports seats. insurance group:13, red, 18800 miles, £9495, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

**FIESTA**, 1.4 Zetec 3dr (Climate) \*\*ONLY 27521 MILES\*\*, am03yit, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, central locking, computer, driver airbag, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, radio/cd, rear headrests, electric heated door mirrors, heated front windscreen, air conditioning, insurance group:4, red, 27521 miles, £5490, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

**FIESTA**, 1.25 Zetec 3dr (Climate) \*\*SPORTS+TECH PACK\*\*, wm08gyu, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, insurance group:4, black, 5607 miles, £8490, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

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**FIESTA**, 1.25 Style + 3dr [82], nc58lft, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, passenger airbag, remote locking, radio/cd, adjustable seats, alloy wheels, central locking, insurance group:4, black, 11031 miles, £11490, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

**FIESTA**, 1.25 Zetec 3dr [82], mj58kl, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, passenger airbag, remote locking, radio/cd, insurance group:4, red, 11815 miles, £11990, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

**FIESTA**, 1.4 Ghia 5dr - FULL LEATHER, na07vlc, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, leather seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests. insurance group:5, silver, 22926 miles, £7995, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

**FIESTA**, 1.4 TDCi Zetec 5dr, aj58jwv, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, passenger airbag, remote locking, radio/cd, ford direct, insurance group:4, blue, 3214 miles, £12990, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

**FIESTA**, 1.25 Zetec 5dr [Climate], i05zox, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests. insurance group:3, silver, 28410 miles, £5990, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

**FIESTA**, 1.4 TDCi Zetec 5dr\*\*NEW SHAPE + 735 RFL\*\*, cv58nu, metallic squeeze, abs, adjustable seats, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests. insurance group:4, green, 9143 miles, £12490, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

**FIESTA**, 1.4 Zetec 3dr, ea58cgv, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, passenger airbag, remote locking, radio/cd, insurance group:4, black, 7327 miles, £12490, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

**FIESTA**, 1.4 Ghia 5dr \*FULL LEATHER\*\*, bg08cxk, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, leather seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests. insurance group:5, blue, 20299 miles, £8490, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

**FIESTA**, 1.4 TDCi Ghia 5dr, ex56ypp, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, leather seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, full heated leather seats, heated screen, navigation system, park distance control, full leather, sat nav, mp3 connectivity, blue, 23000 miles, £7990, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

**FIESTA**, 1.25 Style 3dr, ad08xwv, adjustable seats, driver airbag, electric windows, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests. insurance group:4, silver, 19302 miles, £6990, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

**FIESTA**, 1.4 Ghia 5dr, am03yit, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests. insurance group:5, red, 27521 miles, £5490, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

**FIESTA**, 1.25 Zetec 3dr [82], mj58vuf, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, passenger airbag, remote locking, radio/cd, silver, 11829 miles, £11495, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

**FIESTA**, 1.4 TDCi Zetec 5dr\*\*DIESEL 735 YEAR TAX\*\*\*\*, ea58jrv, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, passenger airbag, remote locking, radio/cd, all vehicles come with balance of 3 year, contact the used car team for more help, with over 400 ford cars in stock today, ford direct vehicle, adjustable seats, anti theft system, central locking, child locks, colour coding body, folding rear seats, heated screen, locking wheel nuts, immobiliser, metallic paintwork, radio, black, 6517 miles, £12695, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

**FIESTA**, 1.25 Zetec 5dr [Climate], de08rgz, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, all vehicles come with balance of 3 year, contact the used car team for more help, with over 400 ford cars in stock today, insurance group:4, black, 8546 miles, £9000, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

**FIESTA**, 1.25 Style 3dr \*\*\*\*\*NEW SHAPE\*\*\*\*\*, gn58sxu, metallic ocean, abs, adjustable steering column/wheel, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, passenger airbag, remote locking, radio/cd, all vehicles come with balance of 3 year, contact the used car team for more help, with over 400 ford cars in stock today, insurance group:3, blue, 6 miles, £9795, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

**FIESTA**, 1.25 Zetec Blue 5dr\*\*"BLUETOOTH HANDSFREE\*\*\*, cv58syx, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, all vehicles come with balance of 3 year, contact the used car team for more help, with over 400 ford cars in stock today, rain sensing wipers, adjustable steering column/wheel, central locking, child locks, colour coding body, heated screen, locking wheel nuts, metallic paintwork, blue, 11914 miles, £9000, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

**MINI**

**COOPER**, 1.6, 2004, black metallic with black and beige two tone leath, 50000 miles, £6999, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

**COOPER**, 1.6 3dr, lb08uaw, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, anti theft system, central locking, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, locking wheel nuts, immobiliser, remote locking, insurance group:8, silver, 4000 miles, £12995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

**MITSUBISHI**

**COLT**, 1.3 C2Z ClearTec 5dr, gk09nwI, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, central locking, computer, cruise control, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows/headrests. insurance group:5, blue, 3000 miles, £9495, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

**COLT**, 1.3 C2Z 3dr, gk09nwm, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, central locking, computer, driver airbag, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, radio/cd, rear headrests. insurance group:5, white, 6000 miles, £7995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

**I-CAR**, 5dr Auto, gn57uta, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, central locking, climate control, colour coding body, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, locking wheel nuts, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, tinted glass, reduced from, black, 14000 miles, £6495, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

**L200**, Double Cab Di-D Diamond 4WD Auto 1658hp, fe57ohf, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, anti theft system, central locking, climate control, computer, cruise control, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, electric sunroof, foglights, heated seats, leather seats, locking wheel nuts, immobiliser, navigation system, power assisted steering, remote locking, traction control, insurance group:19, blue, 21500 miles, £13995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

**LANCER**, 1.8 GS3 4dr, gk08ygc, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, alloy wheels, climate control, computer, cruise control, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, front armrest, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, side airbags, radio/cd, rear headrests, traction control, insurance group:8, 3yrs / 37500 mile free servicing with this car, saving, silver, 9000 miles, £11995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

**LANCER**, 1.8 GS3 4dr CVT, i0x8zrf, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, alloy wheels, climate control, computer, cruise control, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, front armrest, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, side airbags, radio/cd, rear headrests, traction control, insurance group:8, saving, blue, 6800 miles, £11995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

**OUTLANDER**, II 2.0 DI-DC Warrior 5dr, wno8czx, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, anti theft system, fog lights, 1 grey, 12000 miles, £17995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

**OUTLANDER**, II 2.0 DI-DC Warrior 5dr, l5k7xsl, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, anti theft system, central locking, climate control, computer, cruise control, dvd, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, front armrest, locking wheel nuts, immobiliser, multi function steering wheel, power assisted steering, insurance group:11, silver, 17300 miles, £15495, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)NISSAN

**350Z**, 3.5 V6 GT Pack, mf57vzp, leather, charcoal, 18" alloy wheels, 6 cd autochanger, air-conditioning, alarm, Bose audio system, Brembo disc brakes, climate control air conditioning, cruise control, electric heated front seats, electronic stability program (esp), front side and curtain airbags, power assisted steering (pas), remote control keyless entry, trip computer, xenon headlights, universal silver, 3000 miles, £18485.0000, Canterbury, 01227 766777 (TRADE)

**ALMERA**, 2.2d se+, 2001, silver, 0 miles, £2995, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

**FIGARO**, 1.0 turbo auto, 1990, green and white with white leather, 132000 miles, £4799, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

**MICRA**, 1.2 16v 80PS TEKNA, oe08pfn, cloth, carbon, 16" alloy wheels, 6 cd autochanger, air-conditioning, anti-lock braking system (abs), automatic lighting system, automatic rain sensing wipers, battery save, bluetooth integration, body coloured bumpers, body coloured door handles, body coloured door mirrors, body coloured roof spoiler, brake assist, central door locking, driver computer, driver's and passengers airbag, electric brake distribution (ebd), electricdoor mirrors, electric front windows, engine immobiliser, friendly lighting system, front fog lamps, headlamp levelling, keyless entry with superlocking, power assisted steering (pas), rear park system, tilt adjustable steering wheel, tinted front headlamp covers, caf? late, 13000 miles, £8795.0000, Canterbury, 01227 766777 (TRADE)

**MICRA**, 1.2 16v 80PS TEKNA, nc08zcr, cloth, carbon, 16" alloy wheels, 6 cd autochanger, air-conditioning, anti-lock braking system (abs), automatic lighting system, automatic rain sensing wipers, battery save, bluetooth integration, body coloured bumpers, body coloured door handles, body coloured door mirrors, body coloured roof spoiler, brake assist, central door locking, levelling, keyless entry with superlocking, power assisted steering (pas), rear park system, tilt adjustable steering wheel, 10500 miles, £8995.0000, Canterbury, 01227 766777 (TRADE)

**MICRA**, 1.2 16v SE, cf55hvr, cloth, chicane, 2 cupholders, 3 rear headrests, 6 cd autochanger, abs with brake assist, active front headrest system, air-conditioning, audible driver's seatbelt reminder, battery save, body coloured bumpers, body coloured door handles, body coloured door mirrors, central door locking, digital clock, drive computer, driver's airbag, electric brake distribution (ebd), electricdoor mirrors, electric front windows, engine immobiliser, friendly lighting system, front side airbags, headlamp levelling, height adjustable driver's seat, keyless entry with superlocking, leather steering wheel with audio controls, lumbar support, passenger airbag, power assisted steering (pas), rear wash wipe, emotion red, 13000 miles, £6995.0000, Canterbury, 01227 766777 (TRADE)

**MICRA**, 1.4 16v SE, ex08jci, cloth, carbon, 3 rear headrests, 6 cd autochanger, 60:40 split/folding rear seat, abs with ebd and brake assist, active front headrest system, air-conditioning, battery save, body coloured door mirrors, central door locking, drive computer, driver's airbag, electricdoor mirrors, electric front windows, engine immobiliser, friendly lighting system, front seat airbags, keyless entry with superlocking, passenger airbag, power assisted steering (pas), rear sliding seat, techno grey, 24000 miles, £6195.0000, Canterbury, 01227 766777 (TRADE)

**MICRA**, 1.2 16v S, oe05weu, cloth, carbon, 3 rear headrests, 3-point air seatbelts, abs with brake assist, battery save, body coloured bumpers, central door locking, driver's airbag, electric brake distribution (ebd), electric front windows, engine immobiliser, friendly lighting system, front seatbelt pretensioners, front side airbags, headlamp levelling, height adjustable driver's seat, keyless entry with superlocking, passenger airbag, rear sliding seat, single cd player, speed dependent pas, tilt adjustable steering wheel, techno grey, 31000 miles, £5495.0000, Canterbury, 01227 766777 (TRADE)

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**AGILA**, Design 1229cc 5 door, 2008, cd player central locking approved driver's airbag multiple airbags power steering history, blue, 2300 miles, £8995, Sittingbourne, 01795 476222 (TRADE)

**AGILA**, Club 1248cc 5 door, 2008, cd player central locking approved driver's airbag multiple airbags power steering history check electric windows, star silver, 6450 miles, £9995, Sittingbourne, 01795 476222 (TRADE)

**AGILA**, Design 1199cc 5 door, 2004, cd player central locking approved, i, lilac, 28500 miles, £4195, Sittingbourne, 01795 476222 (TRADE)

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EXPANSION: Countrystyle group

## Recycling firm gets taken over

WASTE management company, Countrystyle Group has taken over the running of Hythe Plant and Recycling.

The group is at the forefront of environmentally-friendly disposal practices and said it will continue to adopt a 'green' approach and the business will continue to operate from the existing waste transfer and recycling facility, at Park Farm Industrial Estate, Folkestone.

Countrystyle said the acquisition is part of its ongoing development plan.

Business development director Mat Stewart, said: "We're delighted with the acquisition and see this as an important strategic step in expanding the areas that we cover throughout the south east."

"Countrystyle is now closer than ever to achieving its goal of becoming the waste management company of choice in the south east."

The sell-off was conducted by Jenner Group Ltd whose spokesman Simon Pentecost said: "We believe that Countrystyle is well placed and has the resources to take the recycling and collection services offered by Hythe Plant and Recycling to the next level."

"Jenner Group looks forward to continuing to work closely with Countrystyle to achieve the recycling targets required by Jenner's construction customers".

# Downturn 'teaching businesses valuable lessons in prudence'

By **ALEX HOAD**

alex.hoad@kosmedia.co.uk

KENT'S professional services sector is faring better than any other during the recession, giving great cause for optimism, according to a new study.

Accountants across the county were asked about the financial pressure upon their clients in different sectors, and professional services like lawyers and architects came out on top.

The study – commissioned by independent lender Venture Finance – showed that in Kent, creative industries came out just behind.

More than 1,000 accountants across the UK were asked to rate the extent to which clients in different sectors were under financial pressure during the recession.

### Pressure

In Kent, on a scale of one to five, with one being the most pressurised and five the least, the professional services sector scored an average of 3.05.

Creative industries were just behind with 3.02 while retail was a surprise third with 2.75.

The construction, manufacturing and recruitment sectors all reported higher rates of pressure in the recession.

In addition more than a third of Kent accountants surveyed felt the majority of their current client base could survive for another year – even if the economic climate

## RECESSION PREMIER LEAGUE – KENT

Sector	Recovery Score
1 Professional services	3.05
2 Creative industries	3.02
3 Retail	2.75
4 Construction/property	2.47
5 Manufacturing	2.46
6 Recruitment	2.43



does not improve in that time.

The recession has encouraged prudent financial management and planning, and the survey revealed more than a third of Kent accountants' clients make financial forecasts on a monthly basis.

Decreases in credit availability from traditional sources have also helped boost awareness of other options amongst businesses.

Nearly two-thirds of Kent accountants saw a jump in the number of their clients proactively seeking to find out more about alternative sources of funding.

Venture said the figures were in keeping with the rise in popularity of alternative funding options like invoice and asset based lending (ABL) – now the second most popular form of funding among clients of Kent-based accountants.

Research showed businesses are also taking more steps to protect themselves, with 65 per cent of accountants reporting a rise in the number of clients seeking services that protect

or insure against bad debt.

Ian Burman, regional director of Venture Finance said: "It is important to recognise that although it remains a difficult time for businesses, there are positive signs which should not be ignored."

"There is life after the recession."

"Professional services businesses seem to be in the top recovery position because of the specialist skills and abilities they provide."

### Spending

"Perhaps most surprising was retail at third – maybe this is a sign consumers are spending out of the recession? Only time will tell."

He added: "It is also encouraging to see greater prudence being employed in financial practices. It would appear business owners have learned some important lessons during this downturn."

"People are taking more of a back to basics, common-sense approach to funding and that can only be a good thing."

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# Flipper aims to help kids brush up oral hygiene

PLENTY of the best business ideas began in spare bedrooms across the world, but Sean Reilly's new project has not travelled very far – it has only reached the bathroom.

The 30-year-old from Chartham, near Canterbury, has taken an idea from the other side of the world and is busy spreading the word to the UK and beyond.

His business partner first encountered The Flipper at an airport in Singapore and after recognising the product's potential, they gained distribution rights for the UK, Ireland and France.

The Flipper is a toothbrush holder which comes in a range of colourful and friendly designs which help prompt youngsters to brush their teeth. It attaches to the wall and keeps brushes protected from germs.

Mr Reilly's firm RJW Marketing was launched from his home but earlier this month moved to the new Connect 10 business development in Ashford.

He first began to market the innovative design – which centres on a patented plastic hinge which

By **ALEX HOAD**

alex.hoad@kosmedia.co.uk

flips open and closed – 12 months ago.

A year-on he has enjoyed a huge response, mainly due to the father-of-two's decision to focus on encouraging good oral health in children.

He said: "Flippers mean one less thing for parents to worry about. They will protect from sneezes and from airborne particles which are thrown up when a toilet is flushed without the lid down. The message we want people to know is that they can actively protect your health."

## Bacteria

The Flipper team are working on new designs and researching materials with anti-bacterial coating to help make the devices even more hygienic.

Mr Reilly revealed: "We are looking to develop toothbrushes that tie-in with the product. We are also working on ideas which would actually remove the bacteria."

He also said they were looking at branching



**GREAT IDEA:** The brush holder

out into designs to appeal more to young boys, like incorporating football team emblems.

The enterprise has already had to overcome adversity when his entire stock of 16,000 Flippers was stolen from a warehouse in Ashford in May.

Mr Reilly said: "We were lucky we had good insurers. But we were set back by about two months. It takes six weeks to ship them from Malaysia and at least two weeks to get the order packed."

He recently agreed a deal to stock Flippers in branches of Lakeland in Canterbury, Bluewater and Bromley, to add to several more stockists across Kent, but one day hopes of clinching a deal with a high street leader like Boots.

He said: "The big guys, Procter & Gamble, Colgate... they know we're coming for them."

He added: "We are always on the lookout for new stockists and any outside investment."

"Our website sales are doing well. We are selling probably 10 a day through the website, but there are 12 million children in the UK. If we could get even 10 per cent of them that would be fantastic."

For more information see [www.myflipper.co.uk](http://www.myflipper.co.uk).

## Royal honour acknowledges global success

AN enterprising Kent firm has been presented with an award on behalf of the Queen, recognising its global success.

Maidstone-based Kemet International has led the way in lapping and polishing technology – for more than 70 years.

It began by importing woodworking machines to manufacture the Mosquito fighter aircraft, most famously used in World War Two, before expanding to use diamond abrasives.

Micheal Riedl, joint MD of Kemet International, received a Queen's Award for Enterprise from Vice Lord Lieutenant, Viscount De L'Isle, on behalf of Her Majesty.

The firm won the award for international trade, to recognise their achievement in overseas earnings after establishing operations across Europe, Asia, the Far East and Australia.

The annual awards are made by the Queen on her birthday, on the advice of the Prime Minister, who is assisted by an advisory committee including representatives of Government, industry and commerce, and trade unions.

The Queen's Awards for Enterprise are the UK's top corporate awards recognising the achievement of successful businesses with management and employees working as a team.

The presentation was also attended by the Mayor of Maidstone, Cllr Peter Parvin and Mid-Kent and Faversham MP Hugh Robertson.

# Get on bus to find out more about your area

TOURISM, leisure and hospitality businesses across Kent are being offered the chance to send members of staff on a trip to learn more about their local surroundings.

The Out and About trip has been organised by Visit Kent at Kent County Council as part of its Celebrating Kent campaign and will focus on those working in Thanet, Sheppey and Shepway.

The trip, which costs just £10 per person, is designed to help staff find out more about local attractions so that they can advise visitors to the area looking for activities to enjoy and places to visit.

The Thanet excursion, on Thursday, September 3, will start with a guided tour of the Powell Cotton Museum at Quex House and then include a visit to the Pinball Parlour, an introduction to the Thanet Coast Project and a tour of Kent's oldest theatre – the Theatre Royal in Margate.

Refreshments during the day out will include lunch at the Harveys Crab and Oyster House, in Ramsgate, and a cream tea at the Walpole Hotel and Museum.

## Wildlife

The Shepway excursion on Wednesday, September 9, will feature guided visits to the award-winning Lower Leas Coastal Park, Haguelands Village – including a cooking demonstration using local produce and lunch, and Romney Marsh Visitor Centre as well as a chance to find out more about wildlife at Dungeness.

The Sheppey excursion on Friday, September 11, will start with a guided tour of the Elmley Marshes RSPB reserve followed

By **ALEX HOAD**

a visit to St Thomas the Apostle Church, Harty, and an introduction to the way art is being integrated with the environment at Leysdown-on-Sea.

There will also be a short presentation and discussion about green tourism and environmental and climate change issues on Sheppey. Refreshments during the day will include lunch at the Ferry House Inn and tea at the Shurland Hotel.

Fran Warrington, head of Visit Kent at Kent County Council, said: "People working in busy businesses rarely have the time to find out about all the attractions in their area."

"Yet so often these are just the people visitors turn to for personal recommendations and advice about where to go and what to see. These visits will enable everyone on board the coach to update their knowledge about tourism and tourism attractions in their area."

"They will be sharing their experiences with people working in similar businesses and gaining valuable information to help them deliver even better customer service."

The coach excursions have been arranged and funded by Visit Kent in partnership with Thanet District Council, Discover Folkestone, Hythe and Romney Marsh and Swale Borough Council.

For more information call Visit Kent on 01622 696936 or email [celebratingkent@kent.gov.uk](mailto:celebratingkent@kent.gov.uk). Bookings are on a first come, first served basis.



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By **ALEX HOAD**

alex.hoad@kosmedia.co.uk

A FARMER's business has been recognised as one of the top 60 new firms in the UK in a nationwide competition.

A Goudhurst man has outperformed thousands of entrepreneurs to reach the semi-finalist phase of the 2009 HSBC Start-Up Stars Awards.

The national contest, now in its ninth year, recognises, supports and celebrates the initiative and dedication shown by new business in the UK.

Alastair Jessel, who started The Taywell Group, is now hoping to scoop the top title and a cheque for £25,000, courtesy of HSBC.

Farmer Mr Jessel was inspired to start his business by turning traditional farming methods on their head.

With most farmers producing only what they wish to sell, without considering the requirements of their customers, Mr Jessel decided to ask the simple question: "What does the consumer really want?"

He realised that with supermarkets holding 80 per cent of the retail market, he needed to sell what the major chains could not, with the bywords being 'local', 'service' and 'quality'.

He succeeded in obtaining planning permission to build his farm shop on the edge of one of his fields, and to set up a cold storage unit. In March he also received permission to build an IVC composting unit based in Derbyshire.

He is about to start construction and hopes to take in food and green waste from local councils and commercial businesses to save this waste from going to landfill.

With the majority of his farm rented out, Mr Jessel devoted a small amount of land to growing specialist fruits for sale in his shop, and used any surplus fruits to make his own ice cream and sorbet.

The shop sets out to offer its customers high quality food combined with expert advice from

# Putting focus on customers pays dividends for the farmer



SEMI-FINALS: Farmer Alastair Jessel

well-trained staff, and all his stock is either grown on the farm or produced in Kent and Sussex.

His target market is the 20 per cent of customers who do not shop in supermarkets, as well as the local community and food connoisseurs requiring high-quality products.

He claims his main advantage is the freshness of his product. Supermarket fruit is designed to ripen slowly as the usual time-span from picking to shelf is 10 days, but Mr Jessel's fruit is picked fresh from the bush to capture its full flavour, and has a shelf life of about three to four days.

He is also now starting to grow fruits which are normally imported, such as melons, blueberries, watermelons and tamarilloes, which will help to cut carbon emissions and provide local employment.

The Taywell Farm Shop and Taywell Ice Creams are growing at the rate of 25 per cent

and 90 per cent per annum and are on target to achieve profits of £100,000 and £50,000 respectively.

And the business is going from strength to strength, with plans to open a new shop in Tunbridge Wells by Christmas, which will bring the Kent countryside to town.

Last year, the farmer's ice cream-making process was filmed by BBC TV for The Apprentice and demand soared by 100 per cent after his appearance on the programme.

## Judging

The Taywell Group is one of 60 companies to reach the Start-up Stars semi-finals.

A panel of business experts will select the top 25 start-up companies to go forward to the national judging.

There will also be £10,000 cheques for the best new green business putting the environment at the top of its agenda, the best new

business set up by a graduate, and the best new business trading internationally.

Head of business banking for HSBC, Huw Morgan, said: "HSBC Start-Up Stars is about demonstrating by practical example that with the right help and support, there are still opportunities out there for people with the dedication and will to succeed. We hope the success of The Taywell Group in this year's HSBC Start-Up Stars Awards will help it go from strength to strength, as well as proving to other budding entrepreneurs that business dreams really can be turned into reality."

Start-Up Stars supporter Google will be offering £11,000 worth of free services plus mentoring at Google's UK headquarters, to be split between the four winners.

Specialist business partner, Start Your Business, will also be offering a year's free subscription to each of the category winners.

The winner will be revealed on November 23.



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A SCHEME has been launched to encourage cooperation between European tourism bodies to help bring in visitors.

The Sustainable Tourism Research Intelligence Partnership (SUSTRIP) project will cost almost £3m and is being backed by Visit Kent, Kent County Council and includes partners from France, Belgium and Holland.

SUSTRIP is intended to help boost the regions' tourism industries and develop their visitor economies by sharing research and building up knowledge of what the tourism market demands.

Participating groups say each of the areas faces similar challenges and issues in developing their tourism industries.

It is the first time Kent has worked with three European partners on one major tourism initiative and the county will receive £396,904 of European investment as a result.

All of the projects undertaken will focus on the four different aspects of the business – visitors to each region, local tourism and leisure businesses, communities and the natural environment.

The industry's impact and its benefits will also be explored, as well as ways of maximising an area's potential.

In Kent, the programme will include the most detailed research ever undertaken into subjects like the economic benefits of visitors, transport, accommodations and attractions. It is hoped the findings will help preparations for an influx of visitors attending the 2012 London Olympics.

## European project to develop tourism



JOINT EFFORT: Representatives of all the areas involved in the scheme

Ruth Wood, development manager at Visit Kent, attended the launch event in Sandwich and said: "All the participating regions are very enthusiastic about the big difference this is going to make to their local tourism providers. Following the new research projects – and the development of

knowledge platforms, resources and communications channels – we will all have access to highly-detailed information about our visitor markets.

"This will be valuable information we can all use to support our local tourism, leisure and hospitality businesses effectively."



# Kent farms could give us the food security we depend on

Food security – words currently amongst the most used in the English language.

**PAT CRAWFORD**, press officer at Hadlow College, investigates the complex issues that are embraced by these simple words

THE term isn't new – in fact, it was used during the Second World War when gallant merchant sailors were endeavouring to bring much-needed food to this country.

Delve a bit deeper and the chances are that it was used in all sorts of siege and blockade situations throughout our history.

The difference now is that the challenges are bigger – and probably the most insuperable – ever faced by mankind.

What do we actually mean when we speak of 'food security'?

In the simplest terms, we mean our ability to provide enough food for the population of the world to survive.

The provision of water – about which we're also facing increasing problems – is also generally included, and the food has to be safe and affordable.

Why has food security become such an issue? After all, for centuries, some parts of the world have suffered shortages that have often deteriorated to famine status.

What is causing scientists to predict a worsening state of affairs that could result in millions of people going hungry in countries that have never hitherto experienced shortages of staple necessities?

There isn't one single reason, but an accumulation of factors.

Firstly, we have a burgeoning global population that is predicted to reach nine billion by 2050. In addition to this, the diets of people living in developing countries are changing, and the staples – rice and maize – are gradually being replaced – or at least supplemented – by the inclusion of far more meat, dairy products and other 'developed world foodstuffs'.

These two factors alone would be worrying – but there is much more.

As well as population growth, we are facing issues related to climate change.

If the worst predictions are borne out in regard to rises in sea levels, we stand to lose huge tracts of valuable farming land all round the globe – including a very considerable acreage here in Kent.

We then have to consider where displaced families and businesses will be relocated – thus potentially using more precious land.

By the same token, although rises in average temperatures can enable us to extend the ranges of crops we produce and lengthen the growing periods, we face threats of increasing numbers of flash floods and high winds, interspersed with periods of drought. Not the most clement weather changes from the perspectives of farmers and growers.

But even this doesn't tell the full story. The carbon emissions produced by the farming industry are considerable – and this may mean that in time there will be need for drastic changes to some practices and methods currently in use.

In relation to reducing emissions, the use of some oil-based fertilisers is now being banned by the EEC – and their loss is predicted to result in a big drop in crop yields.

At the same time, there is increasing urgency attached to finding viable substitutes to energy currently derived from fossil fuels because, carbon emissions aside, reserves are running down.

Putting all these issues into county perspective – could Kent farmers and growers create food security for the county's population?

Probably – because Kent is home to some of the best farmers and growers in the UK. It might mean a change in diets and eating habits, but these are surely small sacrifices if it came down to survival, and some scientists are forecasting it might do just that.

• *Hadlow, one of the UK's leading land-based colleges, offers a degree programme structured to produce graduates specifically trained to deal with the provision of food security and associated problems. Telephone 0500 551434.*



**PRECIOUS RESOURCES:** The pressures on food production are huge, and will increase

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# Make sure you click with potential customers online

## Don't miss a chance to get your web address out there

Small business expert and online specialist **JO DODDS** believes only through active promotion of your website can you look to benefit online



**F**OR many small businesses, the web is often overlooked. Either they haven't invested at all or they prepare a home page and leave it at that.

But properly updated and marketed it can become one of your most essential marketing tools.

So once you've taken the plunge, just how do you get the traffic flowing to spark those all-important sales leads? Crucially, how do you market it offline?

More and more people search online to find local suppliers, but there are still a lot of people who don't who may like to use the internet to research potential suppliers once they are aware of them.

The first, hopefully obvious, place to promote your url is on your paperwork; letterheads; compliment slips; business cards; leaflets; faxes and brochures.

But the one place that you may not have thought about is to promote it on your product packaging. You can also print it on your envelopes, particularly if your business has an intriguing name.

Word of mouth is also very useful for many aspects of promoting a business. If you can get other people talking about you, preferably in glowing terms, that can be a great opportunity for your business, as is networking and other face-to-face interaction.

If you throw in the concept of your website and make it memorable, that can really help to get the message out.

Some of you will be aware of Paul Brannigan. He is a local accountant/tax specialist who is also accomplished in public speaking and presentation. When he wanted to promote his business and website he developed a memorable way of

telling everyone his company name and website address in one go.

He became known as "the proactive accountant"... pause for effect... "dot.com", which also ended up with people who knew of Paul already, joining in the dot com bit at the end, to emphasise the point!

It's likely that most people who heard his introduction will have remembered his website address, as planned.

Another place to put your url is on giveaways like mouse mats, note pads, T-shirts, cups, keyrings; basically products that will continue in use for some time, ensuring that your prospects keep seeing your website address over time. In nearly all of these cases, having a memorable web address that explains something about your business is preferable, particularly so that prospects feel the need to have a look at it.

### Discounts

Make sure all your staff know what your url is; they may sometimes be asked for it and you should encourage them to recommend that prospects visit your website.

And when you take out local newspaper advertising, ensure your web address is prominently featured. It's a great way of hitting a wide audience. You can tempt them further by suggesting they can take advantage of discounts by visiting your site.

What do you put at the bottom of your emails? I have my name, company name, telephone number and web address, and a line explaining why people should visit my website.

I have emailed contacts following meeting them at networking events just to connect with them, ie. not selling to them or suggesting they visit our website, and seen them sign up for my newsletter because they have clicked through on the url on my email signature. What could you say about your business on your email

signature?

Don't forget to put it on your invoices and receipts to introduce and remind customers that they can find out more information online.

If you have premises open to the public then you can put your url on your closed sign and/or on your window to remind people that they can find out more information and maybe even shop online and/or book appointments any time of the day. Make sure that you put up signage inside, too.

If you have corporate clothing for yourself and your workforce, then make sure your url is on that. If you sponsor an event of any kind or participate in a fund-raising event you can promote your url somewhere: on your sponsor form, on a T-shirt, or in a press release with more information.

Lastly, if you have a domain name please, please make sure that you set your email address up properly to look something like me@yourcompanyname.com so that you look professional and people know where to find your site.

I still see business people using Hotmail and Yahoo accounts for their email, which is bad enough, given how cheap it is to buy personalised web domains.


When I see businesses with a website active on their url but still using a Hotmail account it makes me cringe. If you have hosting for a website, then you will usually have free email at that url too with the potential to upgrade to a larger inbox for an extra cost.

Here endeth the lesson...

**• Jo Dodds teaches, coaches and supports small business owners to set up and market their own easy, cost-effective and search-engine-friendly websites. Check out [www.counterpoint-matters.com](http://www.counterpoint-matters.com) for free content and webinars about online marketing for small businesses.**

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## Come clean on overseas assets

**BUSINESSES** with unpaid taxes linked to offshore accounts or assets, should prepare to settle their liabilities now in order to benefit from a favourable penalty rate.

HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC) has confirmed full details of a scheme originally announced in the Budget.

People who come clean will have to pay just 10 per cent penalty on the tax due, in addition to the tax itself and any interest on the late settlement of the liability. Just register between September 1 and November 30 and complete a full disclosure online by March 12 or on paper by January 31.

Anyone with undeclared tax liabilities who hasn't taken advantage of the New Disclosure Opportunity will face a minimum 30 per cent fine and prosecution.



By **ALEX HOAD**

alex.hoad@kosmedia.co.uk

TWO Kent food producers helped to ensure that the opening of a new foodhall at Bluewater was voted a huge success.

Cheesemakers of Canterbury were well-prepared for the opening of the John Lewis Foodhall from Waitrose at the shopping centre last week, but an incredible response from customers meant the entire stock of their renowned Ashmore Kentish Cheese had sold out within an hour and more stocks had to be rushed in.

Simply Icecream, based in Bonnington, near Ashford, were also providing tasters to customers who had queued in their hundreds waiting for the doors to open on Thursday, August 6.

Simon Russell, managing director of John Lewis Bluewater, said: "Kent has some tremendous local produce and suppliers – we were particularly impressed with Simply Icecream and the Cheesemakers of Canterbury."

"We're delighted to give shoppers the chance to celebrate the delicious flavours from our area."

He added: "I was lucky enough to be here on the day we opened in 1999, and I have to say, when the foodhall opened it seemed to me to be busier than it was on that very first day. It was incredible. I have never seen anything like it. The queue snaked all the way down to the basement. There were hundreds of people waiting for us to open."

### Unbelievable

"We knew there was going to be interest in advance – there have been people peering over the balustrade to see what's going on for weeks. But the response was absolutely unbelievable. Within five minutes you couldn't get into the cheese room for all the people in there."

He revealed the choice to stock the two local companies had not been a difficult one.

He said: "We had a dedicated foodhall purchaser who approached the producers. There are so many high-quality producers in Kent but we thought these two were fantastic, a little bit different, and we thought they would fit right in."

"We are very, very keen to use in-season and local produce. We will continue to look out for other producers if we ever increase the number of lines we run."

# Foodhall serves up a profit by going local

Picture: MICHAEL CRABTREE



**CAPTION:** Simon Russell of John Lewis Bluewater and ice cream supplier Sally Newall

"The flavours of the ice cream are so unusual and the smell in the cheeseroom is just incredible. I love it. I want to buy something every time I set foot inside."

Simply Icecream, which produces luxury hand-made flavours, has gone from strength to strength since it was launched by Sally Newall three years ago.

The firm uses cream from the South East Dairy Farmers, and all seasonal fruit is sourced from local producers.

Mrs Newall told us: "We first went into Waitrose stores at the end of April. It was the end of a long process. We are stocked in 13 stores across Kent and Sussex."

"If sales are good then hopefully they might want to take it further and sell us

nationally. We have a lot of interest from places in the north who would like to stock our ice creams and we would like to get it up there, but the problem until now has been the distribution."

"When we were asked if we'd like to go into John Lewis on Oxford Street and Bluewater, obviously we said 'yes please'."

It is a stark rise for an enterprise which started with a six-month trial run at Potten Farm farm shop in Sellindge, near Ashford.

After a successful trial the range had gone into five farm shops by 2006 and is now in more than 100.

Despite the huge jump in demand, the production is still carried out by Sally and one other member of staff.

She said: "We are working harder, but we are still working within our capacity. We produce between 1,000 and 1,500 litres a week, we do it all ourselves, there is no batch processing."

"If there was a time when we needed to double the amount we are producing then I would just take on two more staff – we won't change the way we produce our range. We make everything from scratch."

### Turnover

Sally also said she hoped the firm could continue to operate from its base in Bonnington, near Ashford, despite the firm's inevitable growth. She said: "I want to stay where we are for as long as possible."

She revealed: "We have been doubling turnover year-on-year. Hopefully within a couple of years we want to be looking at a turnover of £500,000 – it might take three or four years though."

The Cheesemakers of Canterbury hand-make the Ashmore Kentish Cheese at Lamberhurst Farm, in Dargate, using unpasteurised British Friesian cow's milk from a local farm, using a recipe which has been perfected over the last 25 years.

## Expert secures regular TV spot after advice campaign

A FINANCIAL expert has landed a TV slot after his campaign to get more people to seek independent advice proved a winner.

After his first slot on CNBC's Strictly Money in April, when he spoke about the budget, David Brunning has been invited back to speak about funding children's private education and pensions.

Mr Brunning, from Tunbridge Wells, has accused Prime Minister Gordon Brown of using the nation's pensions as a "piggy bank" and claims the whole pensions arena is chaos.

He said: "Doing my first television interview live to 12 million people on CNBC was very much being thrown into the deep end, but it went well and I was delighted to be asked back."

"I'm on a constant campaign to get people to seek professional, independent advice and the recent appearances on TV and in the national press will help people get this message."



**ACCUSED:** Gordon Brown

And, if it's in clients' interests, I'm not afraid to be outspoken on issues, even if I risk upsetting the Government or the banks."

Mr Brunning, of financial advisers Brunning Newman Houghton, added that he's keen to spread the message about the

new options available to help people make the most of their money and has also voiced his concerns about high street banks' poor record on selling financial products to customers.

He is also a regular newspaper and magazine columnist who specialises in pensions, employee benefits, investment and inheritance tax planning. He holds the Personal Finance Society's AFPC qualification and is an occupational pension transfer specialist.

Mr Brunning will be appearing on CNBC's Strictly Money again on August 27. You can watch his previous appearances by going to [www.cnbc.com](http://www.cnbc.com) and searching for 'Brunning'.

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## Timeline

Kent on Sunday sport takes a look back at the county's sporting action of yesteryear

**1909** 100 YEARS AGO: THE astronomical rise of Douglas Carr continued, with his 'googler' proving the talk of the Canterbury festival, with batsmen and spectators alike trying to get their heads around the concept of a ball that looked like an off-break but instead turned violently to the off side.

Kent's Cranbrook-born spinner (DW as he was known in the era of gentleman and players) had been a moderate club cricketer until he began learning the technique in 1908.

The former Sutton Valence schoolboy made his first-class debut earlier in the season at the age of 37. He was instrumental in a 10-wicket win over Hampshire that concluded a festival week attended by 25,976 fans.

He became so adept at the new art that he was drafted into the England squad for the final Ashes Test and took 7 for 282 – 12 months later he would named one of Wisden's cricketers of the year.

**1959** 50 YEARS AGO: THE build-up to the new football season continued with a burst of activity in the transfer market. The most interesting move, in hindsight, was the arrival in the county of inside forward Hughie Stinson.

Stinson joined Gillingham from Accrington Stanley, but made just one appearance for the club, before embarking on an eventful career in the non-league game that continued into this millennium.

He was Faversham Town manager when the chairman decided to change the entire team just minutes before kick-off, sparking a player revolt. He later succeeded Alan Walker as Sittingbourne boss in 1999/2000.

Stinson was unpaid, as were most of his players, but he helped the club avoid relegation before stepping down the following season.

Elsewhere Dover signed 17-year-old Derek Robson from Arsenal and Maidstone prepared for their first season in the Isthmian League by capturing Brian Myers from Crystal Palace.

**1959** 25 YEARS AGO: MARK Benson, battling through the pain of a persistent knee injury, chose the ideal moment to make his first ever one-day century, a Benson & Hedges Cup semi-final with Warwickshire, who had posted 224 thanks largely to double West Indian World Cup winner Alvin Kalicharan.

Benson batted through the innings and an unbroke stand of 90 with Richard Ellison took Kent through to the final with Middlesex.

Another West Indian legend, Viv Richards, kept wicket as the West Indian tourists took on a Bob Woolmer XI at the Garrison Ground, but the event proved disastrous for the host club Gillingham, who lost an estimated £5,000, when a crowd of 8,000 was predicted and only 1,800 fans turned up.



**COSTLY:** Only 1,800 turned up to watch legendary Viv Richards and the Windies

# Sappers engineered stunning cup record

## Chatham club's FA Cup run one the Gills could only dream of

### Going over old ground

By FRED ATKINS

USE the word 'cognoscenti' in certain pubs in the Medway area and you're likely to get the local equivalent of a Glasgow kiss – a Chatham cuddle perhaps.

Similarly, if you claimed the area was the home of an FA Cup-winning football team, you might be greeted with disbelief or worse, though the cognoscenti know otherwise.

Kent's record in the FA Cup reflects the fact that the county has only had one Football League club for the majority of its history.

Gillingham's run to the quarter-finals in 2000 is the high watermark in a modern era otherwise only remarkable for the odd giantkilling run by the county's non-league sides.

Keener scholars of the game know, however, that in the first year the cup was held, a team from Battersea called Wanderers beat Royal Engineers 1-0 in the first ever final in 1872.

The Engineers, famed for a revolutionary style that involved passing the ball to team mates instead of just dribbling towards the opposition goal, played the Great Lines in Chatham, the vast sprawling open space to the south of the town



Picture: MEDWAY COUNCIL

centre today dominated by the War Memorial.

In terms of silverware, the Sappers' achievements in the FA Cup alone are unlikely ever to be equalled by a Kent club.

Aside from finishing as runners-up in 1872, they reached the final on three further occasions, winning in 1875, when they beat Old Etonians 2-0 in a replay at the Oval thanks to goals from Henry Renny-Tailyour and William Stafford, after the initial game was drawn 1-1.

Their fame was fleeting and by 1882/83 they'd merged with Rochester Invicta to form Chatham United.

In 1889 they beat Nottingham Forest to reach the last eight, but were thumped 10-1 at the Lines by West Bromwich.

Army rules prevented Chatham from charging an admission fee and as a direct



**FINALISTS:** The Royal Engineers and (left) Great Lines, their old stomping ground, now site of Chatham's war memorial

result the FA introduced a rule saying all future games would have to be played at enclosed grounds to ensure the visitors received a share of the gate money.

Chatham duly moved to Alderman Winch's' ground, the Maidstone Road ground they have used ever since.

For a while Chatham remained the top team in the area. In 1892 they entered a poll designed to whittle 26 clubs down to 12 and form a new Southern League. Chatham received 26 votes and came top, while Tottenham were rock-bottom with one vote (presumably their own).

Yet it took another two years for the league to finally form and though Chatham were founder members, by 1900 "financial difficulties" had kicked in and they were eclipsed by New Brompton FC, the team from Priestfield Road, who had formed a just a hoof away from the Lines at the Napier Arms.

Today the sporting tradition on the Lines continues, with Medway Rugby club based on what was the northern end of the site and the Garrison Ground to the east, on the Brompton side.

## Smalling buoyed by U21 outing

AFTER making his England under -21 debut this week, Chris Smalling is hoping more appearances at Fulham will enhance his chance of becoming a permanent fixture in the national side.

The 19-year-old former Maidstone United defender was a surprise addition to Stuart Pearce's England under-21s and featured for half an hour in the 0-0 draw against Holland on Tuesday.

Smalling, who joined Fulham from Maidstone United last summer, has rapidly risen up the football ranks.

In his first season in professional football with Premier League side Fulham, the former Chatham Grammar schoolboy captained the reserves and made his debut for the first-team in the final game of last season against Everton.

Although delighted by his outing with England, Smalling believes he will have a tough battle to cement his place at international level.

He said: "The only way I will be able to keep my place with England is by playing regularly with Fulham. Now the club is in Europe there could be a chance for me to play more games, which would be great."

"All I have got to do is get my head down and keep working hard and hope I will get more chances to play in the first-team. It has been an incredible couple of years for me and I hope I can keep improving the way I have been."

Smalling will be hoping to feature for England next month when they begin their Euro 2011 qualifiers with trips to Macedonia and Greece.



Picture: PA PHOTOS

**RISING STAR:** Chris Smalling of Fulham

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# Karen life and Sol of the party again

**Missing Solheim Cup team a blessing in disguise as golfer claims first win since 2004 British Open title**

KAREN Stupples believes the disappointment of missing out on Solheim Cup selection played a role in ending her five-year trophy drought last weekend.

The 36-year-old put a frustrating season behind her by finishing one shot clear of the field a week ago to lift the Wales Ladies Championship of Europe. Her third career title, it was the first since victory in the 2004 British Open.

The golfer, who grew up in Deal but has spent the vast majority of her professional career in the United States, went into the event at Royal St David's at a low ebb. Her season, heavily disrupted by appendix surgery and ongoing problems with veins in her legs, had gotten worse the previous weekend when she was left out of Alison Nicholas'

By **DAVID PRITCHARD**

European team for women's golf's equivalent of the Ryder Cup.

It came as a huge blow to Stupples, who had built her season around peaking for the event, which starts in Sugar Grove, Illinois tomorrow.

She told Kent on Sunday: "With everything going on with the Solheim Cup and not being picked I think it probably made me even more determined to win in Wales."

"I think I was very close to making the team, I never really asked [Nicholas] when she told me I wasn't going to be picked, there wasn't much else to talk about."

"I would say I can understand her picks. I would also say I could argue against them as well. My other Solheim Cup was not that successful, but I have done okay in the Lexus Cup

and I have played more matchplay than others in the team."

Stupples' victory in Wales may have come too late to claim a second Solheim Cup appearance, but it is a significant boon to her career. With a five-year gap since the last victory on tour, there had been moments where she questioned whether the opportunities to win had passed.

She said: "You always wonder where that next win is coming from, but I never doubted I had the ability to do it. I had a couple of chances last year and I knew my game was there."

"This is perfect timing, it makes this whole year worthwhile and makes up for it. I'm looking forward the rest of the season and now I've won again I feel much more comfortable with the golf I'm playing."



AT LAST:  
Karen  
Stupples  
held on  
to clinch  
Welsh title  
Pictures:  
ADY KERRY



OPEN STAR: Matteo Manassero

## Youngsters' Royal appointment

KENT'S Royal St George's golf course played host to the British Boys Amateur Championships this week which saw the county's best young golfers take on rising stars from Europe.

Nine golfers from across the county entered the prestigious tournament, but they all fell by the way side after the third round on Wednesday.

A total of 256 promising young golfers entered the event in a bid to lift the prestigious title, which has been in the hands of European Tour star Sergio Garcia.

One familiar face in the field was 2009 Open Championship Silver medal winner Matteo Manassero.

Chislehurst's Michael Hamilton was Kent's star performer and made it through to the third round only to lose out to Spain's Jon Rahm Rodriguez on the 21st hole.

Daniel Byrne (Dartford), Jack Colegate (Rochester & Cobham Park), Jack McKenzie (Princes), Connor Fletcher (Chart Hills) and

Liam Harper (Lydd) all exited the competition in the first matchplay round.

While Canterbury's Levi Johnson, Jordan Godwin (London Golf Club) and Joseph Harper (Cobtree Manor) all fell just short in the second round. Harper, from Maidstone, was involved in the longest game, which ended in defeat to Samuel Echikson from Belgium on the 25th hole.

He said: "It is a great competition and I thoroughly enjoyed it. It was a bit hard to take losing on the 25th hole. I hope I can build on my performance for next year's tournament."

Manassero will have to wait another year for a chance to lift the title after being knocked out in the third round by Andrea Gurini on Thursday. Harper was lucky enough to putt with the Italian and believes he will go a long way.

He said: "He is a top player and looks very professional in the way he plays the game. I am sure he is destined for great things, but I hope I can beat him one day."

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# Forward thinking

## Why Gills boss Stimson has an eye for a striker

By **DAVID PRITCHARD**

**AFTER** spending his entire playing career as a defender, perhaps it comes as a bit of a surprise that Mark Stimson has a track record of developing young striking talent.

While Simeon Jackson at Gillingham is the latest in a production line of forwards that have benefited from the manager's input and style of play, the Canada international follows the likes of Aaron McLean, Freddy Eastwood, Gary Hooper and Michael Kightly who went on to score 212 league goals under Stimson at Grays.

McLean, Eastwood and Hooper's rise will see them play in the Championship this season, while Kightly is in the Premier League with Wolves.

"I get a big satisfaction out of helping young players," Stimson told Kent on Sunday. "I get a buzz helping these kids get their career back on the right road and be successful."

The Gills boss spent £150,000 on bringing Jackson to Priestfield last year from Conference side Rushden & Diamonds, raising a few eye-



**STAR PLAYER:** Simeon Jackson has flourished under Mark Stimson's guidance

brows in the process, especially after mediocre displays during Gillingham's relegation from League One.

Now, after netting 21 goals in League Two last season and scoring a hat-trick on the opening game against Swindon Town last weekend, Stimson believes his star striker compares favourably to any he has worked with in the past.

He said: "Jacko is like McLean in his desire to play at a higher level. His training is everything, they want to do more and obviously the boy McLean is getting his rewards and banging in goals for Peterborough. Freddy Eastwood was technically way above anyone I have coached, he's Premier League standard, but he wasn't as driven as Jacko, McLean or Kightly."

"Those lads listened and took on board what I was trying to tell them. I'm sure Jacko will one day play at a level like that."

The prospect of Jackson playing at a higher level may come sooner than Stimson hoped.

The 22-year-old has started the season on fire, prompting a host of scouts including Tottenham, Reading and Sheffield United to watch the striker in action against Plymouth on Tuesday night – a game he also scored in.

Stimson is optimistic of retaining him until at least January, but is realistic enough to admit a sizeable offer would be difficult to turn down.

"I hope and pray we do keep him," he said. "If you are to lose someone like that there are one or two targets out there I have my eye on just in case, but fingers crossed we don't need it. It would be a massive blow but unfortunately it's going to happen to possibly two or three teams in this window, we just hope it's not us."

Pictures:  
ADY KERRY

# County's managers winning the sack race

By **FRED ATKINS**

**IF YOU** land a job as the manager of a Kent football club this season and are still in the post by the time the London Olympics come round, you'll have done well.

Of 16 clubs in Kent from Ryman League level and above, just two managers have been in place for longer than a decade and only four have lasted five years.

The average tenure is three years, yet this is far longer than a manager can expect at a professional club, particularly in English football's second tier, where the going rate is 15 months.

Knowing when to change managers is an inexact science, a gamble that a replacement will do sufficiently better than the incumbent to mount a promotion challenge or, more commonly, avoid relegation.

It's arguable that Tottenham and Blackburn avoided relegation last season because they acted at the right moment, but locally, clubs are far less willing to wield the axe and the word 'sack' is rarely used.

Even when a team is relegated chairmen are reluctant to hand out P45s, with the



**SURVIVOR:** Folkestone Invicta's Neil Cugley

shrewdest recognising the limitations imposed on a manager and judging him accordingly.

Last year Ramsgate were relegated from the Ryman Premier Division and even though the previous four seasons had brought unprecedented success, chairman Richard Lawson came under pressure to sack Jim Ward.

"I won't lie to you, we had a lot of calls to replace Jim from supporters, but the fans don't always see what's going on behind the scenes and all the work he does," Lawson told Kent on Sunday. "The chemistry with Jim and the

football club works, so why would we change that after one bad season?"

"We've always been a club that chooses its people wisely. Stability is the thing and when you've got a manager with a proven track record, players obviously want to play for him."

Folkestone took a similar view when they were relegated the previous season under Neil Cugley, the longest serving manager in Kent (outlasted only by Ferguson and Wenger in the top flight).

Having rejected job offers when things were going well, Cugley's loyalty was reciprocated by the board.

"When I first came here we pushed and pushed and got to the top of the Southern League Premier Division, which at the time was just one step from the Conference, but there's only so far you can go with the resources we have," he said.

"It's always difficult for us tucked away where we are to get the quality of players in, especially in the higher leagues."

"I'm a local person so I've always stayed loyal. I've been offered other jobs, but it's a catch-22 situation. You're always offered them when you're doing well. When you're having a bad time the offers don't come in."

Ramsgate and Folkestone will be hoping to reap the same rewards as Gillingham, who haven't officially sacked a manager since they fired Tony Pulis in 1999, though 'mutual consent' has done for one or two.

The Gills chose to stick with Mark Stimson despite relegation from League One in 2007/2008 and were vindicated when he steered them to promotion 12 months later.

In Kent a vacancy is as likely to be the result of a resignation than a trigger-happy chairman as managers don't stand to lose huge pay-outs if they walk out on a club.

Sittingbourne were presented with a fait accompli when Steve Lovell left for Ashford in 2007 and Laim Daish seems more likely to sack Ebbsfleet than the other way around – which would at least put him out of the misery he appears to be in every time he goes near a microphone.

Even if the hot seats are only lukewarm, however, nobody should assume they are indispensable. As Lawson points out, "there's always someone else who can do the job, in any walk of life."



**ALIVE AND KICKING:** Ramsgate's Jim Ward

Pictures: IGOR KUPCO

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3) RAMSGATE	JIM WARD	FEB 2004
4) MAIDSTONE	A WALKER/L HUME	MAY 2004
5) DARTFORD	TONY BURMAN	JAN 2005
6) EBBSFLEET	LIAM DAISH	FEB 2005
7) DOVER	ANDY HESSENTHALER	MAY 2007
8) GILLINGHAM	MARK STIMSON	NOV 2007
9) SITTINGBOURNE	GARY ABBOTT	NOV 2007
10) ASHFORD	STEVE LOVELL	NOV 2007
11) TONBRIDGE	TOMMY WARRILOW	NOV 2007
12) WELLING	ANDY FORD	JANUARY 2008
13) BROMLEY	MARK GOLDBERG	MAY 2008
14) MARGATE	TERRY YORATH	OCTOBER 2008
15) CHATHAM	ALEX O'BRIEN	SUMMER 2009
16) WHITSTABLE	MARK MUNDAY	SUMMER 2009



# England call is joy for Natalie

NATALIE Seymour's international stock continues to rise after being included in England's squad for the EuroHockey Nations Championships.

The 22-year-old, who plays club hockey for Canterbury ladies, is in the 18-strong selection for the tournament in the Netherlands later this month.

It will be Seymour's second major international tournament this summer, after the defender featured in the Champions Trophy last month.

She told Kent on Sunday: "I'm really chuffed, it's something I've been working towards all summer so it's exciting to be involved."

"I would say it's the highlight of my career so far, I really wanted to start getting selected for major tournaments regularly."

England's women won bronze at the last EuroHockey event, held in

Manchester two years ago. As well as a tournament in its own right, the top four sides will secure automatic qualification to the World Cup in Argentina next summer.

England have a good chance of progressing from a group which features Russia, Azerbaijan and the Netherlands, who are the reigning World and Olympic champions.

Seymour believes England have a good chance of reaching at least the semi-finals in Amsterdam.

She said: "That's the real goal for us heading into the tournament. Russia and Azerbaijan are somewhat unknown and although we are higher than them in the rankings, anything can happen. We don't want to get complacent and we know we'll have to earn the right to play."

England begin against Russia next Saturday.

**NAT'LL DO NICELY:**  
Natalie Seymour will join up with the England squad for the EuroHockey Nations Championship  
Picture: ADY KERRY



# Camier revved up to take on World

## British Superbikes leader sets sights on international series

By **TOM HOWARD**

LEON Camier is hoping offers to join the World Superbike Championship next year will come flooding in after rewriting the record books at Brands Hatch last weekend.

The Ashford superbike rider continued his domination of the 2009 British Superbike Championship last weekend by recording the series' first ever triple race win at Kent's Brands Hatch.

By winning the three races, the 23-year-old became the most successful rider in a single season in the championship's history. His 14 race wins so far eclipsed the 13 held by three-time British champion Niall McKenzie.

His success this season is bound to attract attention from teams in the World Superbike Championship for next season, which Camier would gladly welcome.

He has already experienced the world series after being invited to race as a wild card entry at Donington Park in June, where he finished sixth after starting from 16th position.

He told Kent on Sunday: "I hope teams were taking note of it as I would love to be racing in the World Superbike Championship next season."

"Looking back, it was an unbelievable

weekend. To do the triple at my home track and get the team's 100th victory was a dream come true.

"I had a lot of support there and the crowd were amazing. To pick up the record was also a very special moment. I would have laughed off achieving the milestone at the start of the season when we struggled to get the bike ready in time for the first race."

Camier, who started his career grasstrack racing in Kent, admitted coming back from eighth place to win the third race and complete the treble was one of the finest rides of his career.

"The last race is one that will live with me for a long time," he said. "I had a really poor start, but after that I just passed people anywhere on the track. Everything I tried worked out, but I did think at one point I wasn't going to do it."

"I think the secret to my success was to keep a chilled mindset and not worry about winning the championship. I spent some of the weekend playing golf at the London Club and I think it helped me relax ahead of the races. Now I have just got to keep my head down and make sure I can win the title."

With a 113.5-point lead, Camier still has work to do to win the crown with nine races of the season remaining. He returns to action at Lincolnshire's Cadwell Park on August 31.



**RECORD BREAKER:** Leon Camier has won more races in a single British Superbikes season than any other racer  
Picture: NICK DUNGAN



**GLORY DAYS:** Georgina Harland won the modern pentathlon bronze at Athens in 2004

## Pangs of regret for retired pentathlete

GEORGINA Harland admits she will probably feel as if she is missing out this weekend as she watches the Modern Pentathlon World Championships at Crystal Palace.

The 31-year-old, who won Olympic bronze in the multi-event sport in 2004, was forced to retire last year after injuries saw her miss out on selection for the Beijing Games.

Harland, who grew up in Canterbury, has since taken up a role as Chair of the Athletes Committee at the sport's governing body, the UIPM, and insists she has rarely looked back.

"It's a different life now but it was definitely my time to retire," she said.

"There have been moments where I think it would be nice to be competing again and then about 10 seconds later I think about all the training it takes and I reconsider. I think this week will probably be the strangest because I loved competing on home soil."

Britain has not hosted the World Championships since 2001 and it is the first time the event has been held in London.

Next year the sport's elite come to Kent as Medway Park hosts the British leg of the World Cup as the region steps up its preparations ahead of the 2012 Olympics.

Harland hopes it bodes well for the sport's profile.

She said: "A number of the tickets have sold out for this week which is good. In terms of a legacy and increased media coverage, only time will tell. Hopefully there will be interest in it and people will realise it's a sport we are successful in as a country."



## GOLF

Karen Stupples  
wins first title for  
five years **85**



## SUPERBIKES

Leon Camier revels  
in record-breaking  
weekend **87**



# KEY-DAY FOR ASHES PLACE

## Captain awaits selectors' decision

By **GLENN PEARSON**

KENT captain Rob Key finds out today if he is the man the England selectors turn to in a bid to win the final Test at the Brit Oval and with it the coveted Ashes.

The Kent batsman has been tipped to make a comeback after four years out of international cricket, and he did his chances no harm with a knock of 90 in the County Championship game against Northamptonshire in the week.

After England were thrashed by an innings at Headingley in the fourth Test, heads look set to roll with Ravi Bopara, Ian Bell and Alastair Cook all under threat of the chop. Essex batsman Bopara has struggled throughout the series and is expected to either vacate his position at number three in the order or be omitted from the side altogether.

### Experienced

Warwickshire's Jonathan Trott was named in the squad but didn't play in Yorkshire and while he appears to be the next man in line, many believe the experienced Key would be better for a one-off Test.

It would represent a fantastic opportunity for the 30-year-old, who has returned to form with scores of 110 against Derbyshire, a career-best of 270 against Glamorgan and 123 against Surrey at the Oval.

Selection in the final Test and an opportunity to help England win the Ashes could reignite his international career, starting with the winter tour to South Africa.

His coach at Kent, Simon Willis, believes the county skipper is the right man for such an important game.

"He is a better player than when he last played for England, that's for sure," he told Kent on Sunday. "The captaincy at Kent has helped him as well and I have

no doubt he would do well if called upon. If he does get a chance I can see him going on to have a five or six year career with England."

Some former England players and pundits have called for Mark Ramprakash to make a shock comeback, albeit most of them with Surrey connections, but even he has been quoted as backing Key for the spot.

While it would be Key's first Test since appearing for England in the 2004-2005 series in South Africa, former Kent skipper Dave Fulton – who played with Key at Canterbury – believes he has the ideal temperament to go head on with the Australians.

"I think for me there are two things to weigh up," he said. "Has he got the character to deal with the pressure of a one-off Test? I would give him a huge tick in that box. Has he been harshly dealt with by the England selectors? Definitely.

"He has unfinished business after being dropped having scored a double hundred and 93 against the West Indies. It would be great if he could right those wrongs and I think he is the man to come in for this game."

Key, who was born in Dulwich, has been typically philosophical about an England recall despite the likes of Shane Warne, Nasser Hussain and Graham Thorpe putting forward a case for his inclusion.

He said: "What the selectors think and what the media thinks isn't always the same. They have a good idea of what way they want to go.

"I've been close for a number of years, but my form at the start of the year wasn't good enough, but hopefully recently I've given them something to think about."



Picture: ADY KERRY

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## Gills skipper relishes Rovers tie

GILLINGHAM will have the chance to take a Premier League scalp later this month after being paired with Blackburn Rovers in the Carling Cup second round.

A home game against Sam Allardyce's side was the Gills' reward for a 2-1 win against Championship side Plymouth Argyle at Priestfield on Tuesday night.

Although Gills boss Mark Stimson was hoping for a dream tie against his boyhood team Tottenham Hotspur, he is relish-

ing the chance to take on the 2002 cup winners.

"It's a fantastic draw," he said. "I said before it was made, any big club would be great for our finances and Blackburn Rovers fit that. It wasn't long ago I was at the Millennium Stadium watching them win the trophy.

"It's a great game for us. It's one where we're not expected to win, and if we perform well we might surprise them. The boys will certainly look forward to it."

It will be the second time this

year the Gills have faced top-flight opposition.

In January more than 10,000 fans crammed into Priestfield to watch the home side almost take Aston Villa to a replay in an FA Cup third round tie.

Gills skipper Barry Fuller missed the Villa game through suspension and is hoping to make up for lost time.

He said: "Fingers crossed I'll be involved this time. The pressure will be on them, we'll just go out and express ourselves and then who knows what could happen?"

Picture: ADY KERRY



TOP DRAW: Barry Fuller can't wait to take on Blackburn